

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH



Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JANUARY, 1974

NUMBER 1

Staff of the General Baptist Convention Looks Forward To New Year

We are always looking to the future;
the present does not satisfy us.—
Our ideal, whatever it may be, lies
further on.—Gillett.

The month of January is the beginning of a new year! All of us should take this time to look back, evaluate the significance of what has happened in a busy year, and make helpful resolutions to ourselves and others for the future. What is your resolution? Have you made one? Have you seriously thought about what you want to do in 1974 that you did not do in 1973? Did you give your best service to your home, church and community?

Everyone must have a goal and this is especially true of us here at Headquarters. In order for us to do an effective job of serving you, we must know ourselves what we hope to obtain. As a result, the "Baptist Informer" asked the staff members of the General Baptist Convention to share their resolutions with you.



I resolve in 1974 to talk less and listen more because nobody learns while he's talking.

The entire staff of the General Baptist Convention resolves to be of greater service to more people in more places in North Carolina and throughout the world.

—O. L. Sherrill



The year before me is like a journey on an unfamiliar road. It invites me to make full use of the opportunities that are mine. With all the privileges and responsibilities that are mine, I resolve in this year before me to so give myself to the work to which God has called me, that I may truly be an instrument of His love and hope and place to a needy world.

—Mrs. M. A. Horne

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*

MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*

C. W. WARD

OTIS HAIRSTON

H. L. MITCHELL

S. A. RAPER

COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*

D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*

J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*

C. M. Creecy, 2nd Vice-President

E. B. Turner, 3rd Vice-President

J. C. Harris, 4th Vice-President

Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*

O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*

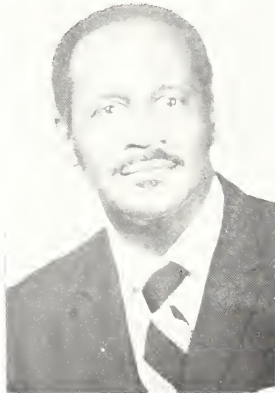
C. C. Craig, Assistant to
Executive Secretary

J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*

Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*

W. B. Lewis, *P*

Frank Marshall *Statistician*



I resolve to let self-examination be a daily duty because it is not a question of where I stand but whither I am moving.

—C. C. Craig.

I resolve to spend fifteen minutes at least once a week in showing brotherhood to some person with whom I would not normally wish to associate.

—Henry D. Cooper.

I resolve to do more in contributing my service to my church, my family, my community, my job and my God.

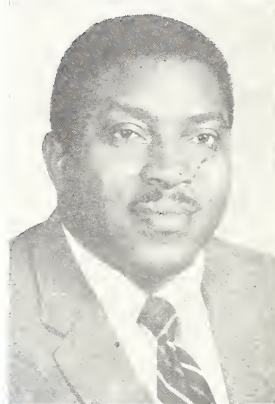
—Bettie J. Chislom.

I resolve to be more thoughtful of others and to try to bring a more pleasant atmosphere to those with whom I come in contact.

—Captola Latta.

I resolve not to hurt, injure or speak evil of anyone, but to let the love of the Savior be seen through me.

—Josephine Tyner.



I firmly resolve to accept any block of granite, which may be in my path, as a stepping stone rather than an obstacle.

—Leo Williams.

Time is one thing we all have the same amount of, yet people use it so differently. Some get so much value from it, some so little. Therefore, I resolve to make a greater use of my time and talents in 1974.

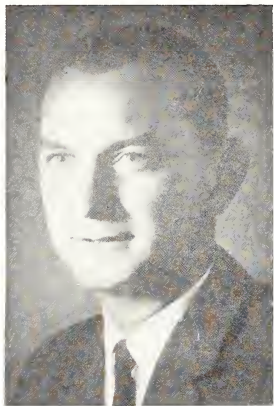
—Margarie Dunn.

My New Years' resolution is to participate in more civic and community organizations than I did in the past.

—Ivery Williamson.

I resolve to continue to develop a Christian personality. It is not what one has, nor even what one does, which directly expresses the worth of a person, but what he is.

—Gladys S. Watlington.



In 1974, I resolve to be slow in giving advice. Wise men don't need it, and fools won't heed it.

All those affiliated with the Department of Cooperative Ministries resolve in 1974 to emphasize a great unity of Christian witnessing among all Baptists in North Carolina.

—Corbin Cooper.

The staff of the "Baptist Informer" resolves to do a better job in 1974 of upholding the paper's name to all its subscribers.

May God bless and keep us all during this year!

Remember

The 28th Statewide Evangelism Conference will be held on February 4-6, 1974 in the War Memorial Auditorium, Greensboro, North Carolina.

The Adjourned Session of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., will be held in Memphis, Tennessee, January 22-24, 1974.

The Adjourned Session of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., will convene January 22-24, 1974, in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Southern Region No. 1 of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., will meet in Laurinburg, North Carolina at the Solid Rock Baptist Church, Rev. J. C. Cooper, pastor, February 20-22, 1974.

Department of Christian Education

Leo Williams, Jr., Director

Beginning at our evaluation conference in September, the work of the Department of Christian Education has continued to move progressively in the new fiscal year. Much of the success of the venture this far must rightly be attributed to Mr. John W. Martin, President, State Sunday School Congress and his official staff; Mr. Clifton Stone, President, State Baptist Training Union Congress and his official staff; the district and county convention presidents, local church pastors, Sunday School superintendents, and Baptist Training Union directors.

A very important planning conference will be held at Baptist Headquarters, Raleigh, Sunday, February 2, 1974, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. The purpose of the meeting is to complete all of the plans for the year including the program for our 1974 State Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress. This conference will be attended by all of the State Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress officers, all of the county and district convention presidents and any pastors, moderators or other interested persons.

With great anticipation, we are looking forward to a Regional Meeting of the National Baptist Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress to be hosted by the Friendship Baptist Church and other Baptist churches in Charlotte, March 13, 14, 15. Dr. Coleman W. Kerry, Pastor, Friendship Baptist, and Dr. J. Palmer, Pastor, University Park Baptist are Chairman and Co-Chairman, respectively, of the Entertainment Committee. Dr. E. A. Freeman and Dr. Oscar Chappell are President and Vice-President, respectively, of the National Baptist Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress. The Regional Meeting promises to present a wide range of opportunities beginning with a Pre-Congress Musical on Wednesday evening, March 13, and proceeding with classes, workshops, demonstrations and dynamic gospel preaching through the following two days. Each church in the General Baptist Convention is urged to represent with a fee of ten (\$10.00) dollars and send as many delegates as you wish. Please send your representation fee to the Baptist Headquarters made payable to the General Baptist State Convention and it will be channelled to the proper place. Churches will be represented from Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Subscribe Now to the BAPTIST INFORMER

New Year Notes From Executive Secretary - Treasurer's Desk

By WENDELL C. SOMERVILLE

The fiscal year of 1972-73 was a wondrous year for the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention; and, our mission schools in Guyana, Haiti, India, Liberia and Nigeria report the largest enrollment ever experienced at these Mission Stations.

There is an upsurge in the areas of evangelism. The Good News is being carried into numerous regions throughout the dark places of the earth.

The recent report from India carries news of a new Leprosarium opened, and many lepers are being treated by our selfless missionaries.

When you build a missionary organization this good, people want to know the secret.

I am constantly being asked to explain the "secret" of Lott Carey's success. One of my general answers is: When the compassionate hearts of people are moved to make donations, their heads are entitled to know where the money goes. Therefore, our Certified Public Accountants, Bert Smith, Jr., & Associates, reported that we received a total cash receipts for 1973 of \$334,396.89; and, our total operating cost was 9% of our income.

The most recent Directory of The North American Protestant Overseas Ministries reports that "the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention made the largest overseas expenditure of any non-white organization in the United States."

In addition to our annual budgetary expenditures for our regular missionary operations, the Lott Carey Convention contributed an additional \$10,000 for the Sahelian Famine Fund through Africare and the All African Conference of Churches. These funds were forwarded September 5, 1973. Acknowledgements have been received from Dr. James McCracken, Executive Director, Church World Service and Dr. C. Payne Lucas, President Africare. Dr. Lucas writes:

"Your substantial gift will undoubtedly be responsible for saving the lives of many, many African people. We feel that the Lott Carey Convention has demonstrated the sensitivity and concern of the church to the plight of the people experiencing the dreadful famine in West Africa."

Other notable achievements of the year were noted during the 76th Annual Session of the Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 27-31, 1973. One of the most eventful scenes was the presentation of the one hundred twenty-six (126) **Men of Troas**—Pastors who had led their congregations to contribute one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars and over for the fiscal year. Never in the history of the world has there been an occasion

where one hundred and twenty-six black pastors at any one time and any one place, contributed one thousand dollars and over for foreign missions.

Our office records show that during the past fiscal year the following significant events were realized:

Funds were forwarded to erect a Chapel at our mission station at Uyo, Nigeria. The Rev. Charles Ebong is the Superintendent of this mission.

The construction of a modern Clinic and Guest House at St. Marc, Haiti, is in the final stages of completion, and plans are now in the process of the Dedication of these modern buildings.

A new modern church has been erected at Miragoane, Haiti. The veteran missionary, Rev. Christian Coicou, is the leader of the congregation and region.

On Friday, December 6, 1973, a contract was signed for the installation of a modern water system on the campus of Lott Carey Mission, Brewerville, Liberia. This system is to be put into full operation by the time school will open in March, 1974. The contractors for this project are the West Bank Construction Corporation and funds for the project are being forwarded through the Chase Manhattan Bank.

On Friday, December 14, 1973, the Administrative Committee conferred with Counsellor Angie Brooks Randolph, and plans were formulated for Mrs. Randolph to take up residence on the campus at Lott Carey Mission. Mrs. Angie Brooks Randolph is a graduate of Lott Carey Mission and has served as President of the General Assembly of the United Nations. Her presence on the campus will serve as an inspiration and source of strength to the students and faculty.

During my recent visit to Liberia, I was extended an audience with His Excellency, Dr. William R. Tolbert, and was presented a copy of the recently published "**Presidential Papers—71-72.**"

While in Liberia I met several of our most celebrated graduates of Lott Carey Mission, namely:

Honorable E. Reginald Townsend, Minister of State for Presidential Affairs.

Mrs. Armenia Urey Morgan, Director of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education.

Counsellor Luvenia Ash Thompson, Ministry of Labor.

Dr. Florence McClain Daronola, Department Head, College of Medicine, Sinkor, Liberia.

There were numerous other graduates of Lott Carey Mission, too numerous to mention at this time.

One of the recent highlights of our program was the Bon Voyage Service held at Shiloh Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., for our recently appointed missionary, Mrs. Lucille Blount. She is a

(Continued on page 6)



The Never-to-be-Forgotten Holy Lands Pilgrimage

On December 11, 1973, twenty-eight (28) Tour Members with Mrs. M. A. Horne, Tour Hostess and Miss Bettie J. Chislom, Assistant Tour Hostess met at the John F. Kennedy International Airport, New York, for the Holy Lands Flight. The tour group represented four (4) States — North Carolina, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma. The group is standing at the foot of Mount Olive with Jerusalem in the background.

Seated — the Guide "Pap Pap" (Come Come). Standing behind the Guide, L-R: Mrs. Horne, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Convention; Miss Chislom, Assistant to Mrs. Horne; Mrs. M. C. Grier, Belmont; Mrs. Cora P. Reid, Charlotte.

First Row, Far L to R: Mesdames Mattie Brewer, Pennsylvania; Mildred Sturdivant, Marshville; Catherine Mannings, Parmele; Mary Johnson,

Goldsboro; Bertha Gore, Longwood; Annie R. Bryant, Longwood; Ethel Bittle, Charlotte; Navie Holmes, Goldsboro; Donna Golden, Walkertown; Virginia Stewart, Winston-Salem.

Second Row Far L to R: Mesdames Annie M. Campbell, Charlotte; Lucy Gray, Tarboro; the Reverend H. L. Nicholson, South Carolina; Mr. T. S. Crawford, Belmont; Mrs. T. S. Crawford, Belmont; Mesdames Sarah Best, Goldsboro; Ophelia Sutton, High Point; Hattie Solomon, Smithfield; J. B. McLester, Durham, President of the Woman's Convention.

Rear, L-R: Mr. Archie Reeves, Belmont; Mrs. Archie Reeves, Belmont; C. R. Mosley, Pastor Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Belmont and Mr. Wayne Pamplin, Oklahoma.

(Not on picture the Reverend William H. Watkins, Pennsylvania.)

Mrs. Horne To Haiti and Hot Springs Arkansas

On January 15, 1974, Mrs. M. A. Horne left for the Republic of Haiti to visit and observe the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission. The Reverend John L. Daniels of Franklinton, North Carolina is currently the Superintendent of the Mission and ably assisted by Mrs. Daniels.

The Daniels are sponsored by the Woman's Convention through the Lott Carey Convention. The work in Haiti is well organized under the Daniels' leadership.

Following the return from Haiti Mrs. Horne and Mrs. J. B. McLester, president of the Woman's Convention will attend the Board of Directors Mid-Year Meeting of the National Woman's Convention, U. S. A., Inc., in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Mrs. Horne is a member of the National Business and Finance Committee. This is Mrs. McLester's first Directors Meeting and she is well known in the National Circle of friends.

Woman's Day

Woman's Day was observed at First Calvary Baptist Church of Salisbury, N. C., October 21, at 11:00 A.M. with Mrs. Vera Slade, past president of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention as guest speaker during the morning service. Mrs. Slade's message was centered around the theme, "HOPE". She advised that as missionaries and witnesses carrying a message of hope, we should strive to carry on the mission of Christ and be witnesses unto Him, "in Jerusalem (home missions), in Judea (State missions), in Samaria (missions throughout this country), and unto the uttermost part of the earth (world-wide missions)".

The goal set for Woman's Day was \$3,000.00. The women went over the goal by several hundred dollars.

The Ebenezer Baptist Church Wadesboro, North Carolina

William T. Ellerbe, age 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wade T. Ellerbe of Wadesboro, N. C., and the grandson of the late Reverend W. T. Johnson and Reverend J. C. Ellerbe, preached his first sermon on Sunday, November 25, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Salisbury Street, 3:00 P.M.

William is a 1971 graduate of Bowman High School in Wadesboro and attended the Central Railroad Institute in Atlanta, Georgia.

He is a member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Wadesboro, where the Reverend W. G. Hall is pastor.

Presently, he is employed by the West Knitting Corp. in Wadesboro.

A SERMON IN VERSE

It's raining today and it's Sunday;
It's dreary as dreary can be.
Why go out to church in this weather?
The preacher will never miss me.
I've a good excuse now. Ain't it raining?
So what can a poor fellow do?
It's dangerous to walk in the dampness;
You're likely to catch the old flu.
So I guess I'll just sleep a bit longer.
Ain't it grand to have nothing to do?
(It's wicked, but still I'll admit it,
I hope it rains next Sunday, too.)
It's raining today, but it's Monday;
It's dreary as dreary can be;
But off to the job I must hustle;
'Twouldn't do for the boss to miss me.
That good old excuse that it's raining,
Is good on a Sunday, 'tis true;
But somehow it won't work on Monday,
Anyhow, who's afraid of the flu?
Oh, fair-weather Christians, admit it,
The weather has nothing to do
With regular Sunday attendance,
The matter lies "soul-ly" with you.

Clara M. Bode

NEW YEAR NOTES

(Continued from page 4)

member of Shiloh Baptist Church, the Rev. Henry C. Gregory, III, is the minister of this historic church. During the signal occasion, I recalled that it was in this same church, Shiloh, that the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention was organized, December 16, 1897, and, the records show that a similar Bon Voyage Service was held in Shiloh Baptist Church, January 9, 1921, for Miss Clarice Gooding. Mrs. Blount will leave on Thursday, January 10, 1974, to take up her duties at Lott Carey Mission, Brewerville, Liberia. We rejoice in having this dedicated woman to join our staff in Liberia.

What of 1974?

The officials of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention stand on the threshold of this New Year fully aware of our divine assignment, "You must therefore go and make the people of all nations and disciples." With this glorious and divine command, the Lott Carey Family is in a **Hurry for God**, for we are constantly reminded that, "we are surrounded then as we are by these (our loyal constituents) serried ranks of witnesses—we run with patience, our eyes fixed on Jesus the source and the goal of our faith."

Again, Thanks to all the members of **The Lott Carey Family**.

NEWS FROM . . .



The First Calvary Baptist Church Salisbury, North Carolina

Sunday, October 14 was a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing for the pastor and members of First Calvary Baptist Church of Salisbury, N. C. On that date at 12:30 p.m. the pastor, Rev. Theodore Walker, conducted a mortgage burning ceremony which signaled the retirement of a mortgage of forty thousand (\$40,000.00) dollars. The amount was paid in full within the past six years.

When Rev. Walker began his pastorate at First Calvary in April of 1965 he found the members ready and willing to build a new church. With money on hand (in the Building Fund) and other funds raised through special efforts, First Calvary was able to begin the construction of a new church in July of 1966. On June 4, 1967 the congregation joyously marched from the old church to the new church. The new church (plus pews, furniture, and conveniences) was purchased at a cost in excess of \$100,000.00.

First Calvary's next project is a new parsonage which will be completed by the last of November of this year. The old parsonage was in the path of the Redevelopment program.

Through its pastor and members, First Calvary's out-reach extends throughout the Salisbury-Rowan community. It supports the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention.

The pastor is active in the civic, business, and political activities of the community. So are many of the members of the church.

National Baptist Convention, U.S.A.

Robert Bradley Named Director of Music Promotion

Dr. J. Robert Bradley has been named Director of Music Promotion in the Department of Christian Education of the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. He will be responsible for promoting the use of the Baptist Standard Hymnal, Gospel Pearls, Spiritual Triumphant and other music publications offered through the Board. He will encourage development of the music potential in the denomination.

Bradley for a number of years has been in the forefront of the music of the National Baptist Convention. At each annual session of the Convention and the National Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress, his voice has thrilled the hearts of the thousands who have heard him.

Bradley was born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1920. He started singing in Sunday School and public schools in which he attended. He has studied under the famous Edith Walker, who also taught Marian Anderson, and sung in Carnegie Hall in a recital given by Edith Walker's students. Bradley has also sung outside of America. He was invited by the University of Mexico to sing and lecture on Negro spirituals. Lawrence Brown, the famous composer and accompanist, persuaded Bradley to go to England to study. In England he studied under Roy Henderson and later under Frank Titterton. Bradley was a great success in England and was called "the successor to Paul Robeson."

Other places Bradley visited are: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to sing at the World's Baptist Youth Congress; Scandinavian countries — Norway, Sweden and Denmark, where he was invited by the Baptist Youth and he gave twenty-seven benefit concerts and finally London again where he made a debut at Royal Festival Hall and at the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance.

And now, after studying with the best tutors of America and Europe, he has been called to service to the Convention he loves, to sing the songs and promote the preservation and use of the best in our church music. He will speak to choirs and music groups, demonstrate his ideas through his own singing and will be available to accept limited engagements for solo and other professional work.

1974 CHARTER PLANE TO BAPTIST CONVENTION

As a result of the exciting and successful plane trip to the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., last year, another trip is planned for September, 1974, to Buffalo and Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Two Southern Airways DC-9 Jet planes have been chartered — one will leave from Charlotte and one will leave from Raleigh. Each plane will hold 95 passengers. They are scheduled to leave on Tuesday afternoon, September 3, 1974, and return on Saturday afternoon, September 7, 1974.

COST: The final price is not yet available. However, based on prices as of October, 1973, the package trip should be only \$175.00. This includes the round trip jet flight, four nights in a hotel (two in a room), airport-hotel transportation, luggage tips, plus a six and one half hour tour on Friday to view Niagara Falls from the American and Canadian sides.

NOTE: Prices are subject to change and are based on each plane being filled to capacity. **We urge those who have a choice of airports to please choose the Charlotte plane.**

RESERVATIONS: Larger planes are not available. Therefore, seats will be assigned on a first-come basis. Reservations should be made immediately by sending a deposit of \$25.00 per person. The balance will be due anytime between now and July 1, 1974.

Please clip on this line

RESERVATION FORM

Name Date

Mailing Address
Street or Box

City State Zip

Church

Roommate

Amount Enclosed \$ Telephone

I will depart from (check one)

Raleigh-Durham Airport

Charlotte Airport

Make reservation check in the amount of \$25.00 for each person payable to: General Baptist Plane, and mail to:

General Baptist Plane
P. O. Box 6172
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

African Tour — November, 1974

With O. L. Sherrill and Corbin Cooper

Pastors and lay persons are invited to join an exciting 15-day tour visiting five countries of Africa. The date is November 12-26, 1974.

The trip includes a visit to National Baptist and Lott Carey work in Liberia, game parks in Kenya, descend 2,000 feet for a picnic in Tanzania's Ngorongoro Crater, tour Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, and conclude with the Egyptian Museum and Pyramids.

The total cost of \$1,495.00 includes air transportation from New York and return to New York (based on present air fare for Group Inclusive Tour, subject to a minimum participation), surface transportation by deluxe motor coaches, deluxe hotels and lodges based on two person sharing a twin-bedded room, all meals, trips and taxes, and the \$3.00 per person International Departure Tax. Other airport taxes are not included.

RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE IMMEDIATELY

AFRICAN TOUR—1974

P. O. Box 6172

Raleigh, N. C. 27608

Please enroll me for the African Tour, November 12-26, 1974. My deposit of \$100.00 per person is enclosed.

Make Check payable to: African Tour—1974

Mail to: African Tour—1974

P. O. Box 6172

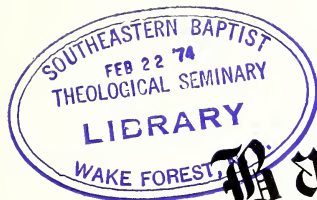
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

Name

Mailing Address

City and State Zip

Telephone.....



Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, FEBRUARY, 1974

NUMBER 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 1974

WHAT?

WHEN?

WHERE?

Feb. 23	One Day Session, Ushers Convention, Bethlehem, Winston-Salem	
Mar. 13-15	Regional Meeting of the National Baptist S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, Inc., Friendship, Charlotte	
April 13	One Day Session, Laymen's League, Rock Hill, Asheville	
May 14	Moderator's Clinic, Shiloh, Henderson	
May 15	One Day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Shiloh, Henderson	
June 17-21	National Baptist S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, U. S. A., Inc., Detroit, Mich.	
June 17-21	National Baptist S. S. Congress of America	
June 17-21	Progressive Congress of Christian Education, Philadelphia, Pa.	
July 16-18	Ushers' Convention, Mt. Vernon, Durham	
July 29-Aug. 2	Woman's Convention, First, Winston-Salem	
Aug 6-8	State S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, First Fayetteville	
Aug. 26-30	Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Shiloh, Greensboro, N. C.	
Sept. 3-8	National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Buffalo, N. Y.	
Sept. 3-8	National Baptist Convention of America, Nashville, Tenn.	
Sept. 3-8	Progressive National Baptist Convention, Cleveland, Ohio	
Nov. 5-6	General Baptist State Convention & Laymen's League Convention, First, Raleigh	
Nov. 6-8	Joint Session (General Baptist and Baptist State Convention), Raleigh Memorial Auditorium	

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

The Month of February...

At this season of the year, we remember the birthdays of two great men of our nation—George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Each met the need of his day, served his country well and each was truly a great man.

It is of special interest to Christians to see what God says about greatness in the Bible. In Mark 10:43, 44, we find the words of Jesus on this subject, "Whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all."

It was not simply because Washington and Lincoln were national figures that they became great. Their greatness stemmed from the fact that they were willing to serve their country at any cost. This is doubly true in the spiritual realm, and we are fortunate just to have that spiritual Washington and Lincoln on our Convention staff!

Can you guess who he is?

He is a native of Union County, Monroe, North Carolina where he attended the public school system of the county and graduated from Western Union High School. He attended the college of liberal arts and the School of Religion at Shaw University and graduated with an A.B. and B.D. Degrees. In addition to this, he completed the requirements for a diploma in Clinical Pastoral training at the School of Pastoral Care, North Carolina Baptist Hospital and the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He has done further study towards a Master of Theology at the Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina. On the na-

tional level, he is a teacher of Baptist Doctrines in the National Baptist Training Union Congress of the National Baptist Convention, Inc., which is the largest Negro Baptist group in America. Moreover, he is truly great because he ministers to others and with pure love dedicates himself to Christ and others! His service, which goes unnoticed and taken for granted the majority of the time, is performed with complete abandon of self!

Of course!! It is none other than our Assistant to the Executive Secretary, THE REVEREND C. C. CRAIG.

Reverend Craig, our hats go off to you this month. Happy Birthday!

FEBRUARY 23



C. C. CRAIG

Woman's Page----

\$16,388.73 Received During Mid-Year Session As Baptist Women Adopt "Key Nine" as Watchword (90th Birthday)

Thelma C. Horton

The Baptist Women of North Carolina adopted "Key Nine" as their Watchword for the year 1973-74, which will culminate with the observance of the 90th Annual Session. This session will be held July 29-August 2, 1974 at the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. David R. Hedgley, pastor.

The delegates got off to a real good start on Saturday, January 12, with the twenty-first Annual Session at the Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. The main auditorium was filled to capacity with Seniors, Young Adults, Youth, and a representative number of ministers and laymen. Emphasizing the theme "One World, One Mission" (St. John 3:16-17, Matt. 28:19-20). The group adopted a budget of \$175,000 for their objectives (Shaw University, State and Foreign Missions, Central Orphanage and the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly) and pledged to include the Watchword "Key Nine" in every segment of the Convention Program. This means that the Number "9" must be included in all monies reported.

Mrs. J. B. McLester of Durham presided over her first session as President. At the close of the inspiring and informative session, she said, "Let us carry the message on our hearts and whatever we have done or whatever has transpired, if you can do anything to make it better, feel welcomed to do it."

Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, presented "The Woman's Convention In Action." Following a brief explanation of "Key Nine", (representing the 90th Birthday of the Convention) she recognized all women (in attendance) who were 90 years old and presented them with "The 1974 Woman's Convention Calendar". The calendar portrays the picture of our Haitian Missionaries, Reverend and Mrs. John L. Daniels from Franklinton, North Carolina, John and Carrie, as they are affectionately called, assumed their duties last August as Superintendent of our Haitian Mission in St. Marc, Haiti. (Calendars are on sale in the Convention Office.)

She presented the members of the newly organized Haitian Year-Round Committee, Mrs. Ethel Clements of Henderson, Chairman and Mrs. Wilmina Davis of Durham, Co-Chairman. The Union and Auxiliary Presidents, The Year-Round Committees and District Conference Chairmen marched and gave their reports ranging from

\$9.00 to \$2,009.00, as Mrs. Jettie M. Lucas, Convention Organist, played the 1974 Convention Theme Song "Key Nine". Mrs. Lucas, the wife of the Reverend R. D. Lucas of Kings Mountain, composed the lyrics, to the tune of "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Reports

Circles \$2,314.48; Auxiliaries \$4,628.74; Unions \$4,182.71; Year Round Committees \$1,995.79; Haitian Committee \$1,086.87; Young Adults Department \$386.09; Youth Department \$377.95; Literature and Souvenirs \$726.10; Offering \$300.00; Pre-Convention \$390.00.

Grand Total — \$16,388.73

Mrs. McLester presented an inscribed "Trophy Gavel" to the past presidents (now living): Mrs. M. A. Horne, 1950-1968 and Mrs. Vera M. Slade, 1968-1973.

Mrs. Mary B. Sapp of Raleigh, who served as Assistant Recording Secretary for more than 28 consecutive years, was honored upon her retirement. Following a brief resume of her service to the Woman's Convention by President McLester, Mrs. Sapp's pastor, Dr. C. W. Ward, talked about her church and community life. He said, "Sister Sapp is made of the kind of stuff people are not made of anymore. She will tell you what she believes and will work hard to carry it out." Miss Bettie Chislom, Assistant to the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, presented the gift to Mrs. Sapp. She said, "Mrs. Sapp, this has been a portion of 'This Is Your Life'. Today, your character, the time you have served the Woman's Convention, your devotion to your church and community have been made public. Being the outstanding person that you are, and being loved by the entire Baptist Family, it was a must that our Convention return to the fact that you are a person of great sacrifices. You are a jewel that will never lose its value. We wish you the best things in life and we hope that you will continue to be with us in our every endeavor. On behalf of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, it is my pleasure to present to you this check in the amount of \$496.00, for your dedicated, loyal and untiring service for a job well done. May God Bless you and may His face shine upon you, for today we have witnessed your good works. The Cleveland County Choir dedicated the song "Serving The Lord" to Mrs. Sapp. Mrs.

Sapp expressed her appreciation to the Convention and said, "This is the greatest honor that I have ever had in my life, because this is a great Convention."

Mrs. Horne presented awards to the winners of the 1973 "Miss Shaw Contest", which was held during the Annual Session at Greenville. Recipients were Miss Tricia Hogue of Cleveland County and Miss Arlena Lowery of Gaston County.

Dr. T. A. Watkins and the Reverend J. C. Harris represented the Ministers and gave some remarks relative to the on-going developmental program of the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. He stated that the Ministers were dedicated to the Women and would give them the service that they needed, so that their responsibilities and obligations may soon be consummated.

The Ministers' Wives held their first organizational meeting and proposed the following recommendations: (1) That the organization be named "The Baptist Ministers' Wives of North Carolina; (2) That their purpose be: to aid the Divinity School at Shaw University, promote better fellowship among the North Carolina Baptist Ministers' Wives and to have an annual Workshop. Mrs. Omega F. Johnson, wife of Dr. J. J. Johnson of Fairmont, was elected as Chairman and Mrs. Odessa Alexander of Charlotte, as Co-Chairman.

The session closed with a dynamic message by Reverend R. B. Sykes of Goldsboro. He is the pastor of the Greater Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Kinston. Speaking from the subject "Is the Church Able to Meet the Challenge?", he challenged the Convention to accept the Divine Order from God and return to the old land mark.

From the 1974 Convention Theme Song "Key Nine" let us remember:

"Key-Nine will bring us all together,
Marching to our new creation,
Key-Nine will give us all new visions,
To make our dreams come true."

**ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE
90th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND
FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

July 29-August 2, 1974

To Be Held at the First Baptist Church

Dr. David R. Hedgley, Pastor

Highland Ave. and 7th St., Winston-Salem, N. C.

Headquarters: The Hilton Inn
(Marshall and High Streets)

ROOM RATES PER NIGHT (Tax Included)

Singles (1 person, 1 double bed)	\$15.60
Singles (2 People, 1 double bed)	18.54

Doubles (2 people, 2 double beds)	20.80
\$3.00 per night for each additional person	
\$3.00 per night for each roll-a-way bed	

NOTE: For hotel accommodation send 1st night deposit to your Woman's Convention. Make check payable to: Woman's Baptist State Convention.

**WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY
CAMPUS RATES (62 Rooms Available)**

Twins (2 people, 2 beds) \$2.50 per day per person	
Bed linen will be furnished by the University	
Bring your own towel and face cloth	

HOME RATES

2 people in a room — \$2.50 each per night	
1 person in a room — \$5.00 per night	

NOTE: Reservation for Winston-Salem University and homes, please write: Dr. David R. Hedgley, First Baptist Church, Highland Avenue and 7th Street, East Winston-Salem, N. C. 27101

NOTE: July 12, 1974 is the deadline for receiving reservations for hotel, university and homes. Make your reservation NOW!

**WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND
FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA — 1974**

SCHEDULE OF REPRESENTATION FEE

Watchword: "Key 9"

Missionary Circle	\$30.39
Union	50.59
Auxiliary	75.79
District Conference	20.29

Young Adult Department

Local Young Adult Department	\$20.29
Local Young Adult Union	20.29

Youth Department

Local Youth Department	\$20.29
Local Youth Union	20.29

NOTE: Make all checks or money orders payable to: Woman's Baptist State Convention Checks, Money Orders or Cash of large denominations should be brought to the convention.

Mail all monies to your Executive Secretary in special envelope (enclosed) to avoid standing in long lines.

Registration and Kit	\$ 2.09
Representation Fees are not designated (suggestion).	

The 1974 Annual Session will be held in Winston-Salem, N. C., July 29-August 2; Host Church: First Baptist.

Meeting Places

SENIORS: First Baptist Church, Highland Ave. and 7th Street.

YOUNG ADULTS: First Baptist Church — Smith Chapel.

YOUTH: Hanes Memorial CME Church, 819 N. Highland Ave. (2 blocks from First Baptist).

ON FOR A GREAT SESSION!

Berthenia D. Horne
Executive Sec.-Treas.

**THE TWENTY-FIRST ONE DAY SESSION
OF THE
NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST
USHERS' CONVENTION**

To Be Held With The

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

1711 North Claremont Avenue

Winston-Salem, N. C.

The Reverend E. L. Clark, Pastor

February 23, 1974

Arthur Williams President
Mrs. Erma Frazier Secretary
Mrs. Lois Henderson Recording Secretary
Mrs. C. M. Arrington Corresponding Secretary

**THEME: "The Church Ushers Responsibility
As A Christian"**

PROGRAM

9:00 A. M. Registration

10:00 A. M. Devotional Services
 Mrs. V. L. Troxler and
 Members of Guilford Asociation
Welcome Remarks
 Pastor E. L. Clark
Response Mrs. Sarah Hedrick
Remarks President
Business Session: (Reports)
Executive Board
 Mrs. Erma Frazier
Oratorical Contest
 Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews
Greetings:
 Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Sec-
 retary, General Baptist Conven-
 tion
 Mr. H. V. Bryant, Supt., Central
 Orphanage, Oxford, N. C.
Training Session:
Fire Safety as an
Usher Responsibility
 Rev. R. D. Lucas, Shelby, N. C.

First Aid Discussion:

"Burns" .. Mr. Clarence Reynolds
 Winston-Salem Fireman

The Church Ushers'

Responsibility as a

Christian Rev. H. S. Diggs
 Dean of Convention

Comments

A. L. Williams, President

Offering

Announcements

Dismission

Lunch

1:45 P. M. Devotional Services
Young People (Under the direction
 of Mrs. Missouri Baker, Rocky
 Mount, N. C.)

2:00 P. M. Oratorical Contest
 Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews
 Lumberton

3:00 P. M. Sermon T. A. Watkins, Wilson
Report of Finance Committee
Announcements
Benediction

Regional Congress to Our State

All of us in the General Baptist State Convention should throw our strong arm of support around the Regional Meeting of the National Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress to be held in Charlotte, March 13, 14 and 15. The Meeting will be held in the University Park Baptist Church, Rev. James Palmer, Pastor and the Friendship Baptist Church, Rev. Coleman W. Kerry, Pastor. The region for this meeting embraces Virginia, West Virginia, South and North Carolina. It becomes our serious responsibility to share the hosting with Pastors Palmer and Kerry. Our presence and our representation will go a long way in giving the support necessary to making this meeting successful.

Progressive Regional

Region I of the Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc., will meet February 20-22 in Laurinburg, at the Solid Rock Baptist Church, Rev. C. J. Cooper, Pastor. Take out a little time and come over to Laurinburg and share with our progressive brethren.

Did You Know?

At the Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention in 1974, we will recognize the Moderator of the Year. Listed below is the criteria which is used to select a person for such recognition:

1. Lead his pastors and churches to support the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention through the Unified Program.
2. Lead his association to sponsor a well planned associational institute each year. In like manner, he will recommend that each pastor lead his church or churches to have an annual leadership training institute.
3. Lead his pastors in attending the annual meetings of the General Baptist State Convention including the Auxiliaries' Meetings.
4. Lead his pastors in attending the ministers institute each year at Shaw University, and training opportunities at other places, particularly in the state.
5. Lead his pastors in exemplifying a positive attitude and a brotherly relationship with other moderators and pastors.
6. The information will be secured from:
 - a. The Annual Report.
 - b. A form provided by the Baptist Headquarters which each moderator will fill out supplying necessary information.
7. Points will be given based upon the percentages of pastors or churches in the Association which are actively participating.
8. Final evaluation of recommendation be made by the Administrative Committee.

The Shaw University Divinity School will have its First Annual Pastor's Conference on March 18, 19 and 20 at the Shaw University Church. Dr. James Deotis Roberts, Dr. K. O. P. Goodwin and Dr. William A. Jones will bring inspiring lectures. For other information, contact James Z. Alexander, Dean, Shaw Divinity School, Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C. 27602. The registration is \$25.00.

The First Baptist Church of Fayetteville dedicated a 150 unit apartment complex on Sunday, January 6, 1974. The Topeko Heights Apartment is a 221 (D) 3 low and moderate income rent subsidy complex designed to improve the housing conditions in the city.

The apartments were built by a church-sponsored corporation known as the F. B. C. Corporation with 100% federal participation.

Dr. C. R. Edwards, our President, was recently named Chairman of the Fayetteville City Board of Education. He has served as a member of the Board for 8 years.

The Reverend George W. Dudley, Editor of our Baptist Informer, was elected to the Board of Directors of United Federal Savings and Loan Association, Rocky Mount, N. C. He is currently serving his second term on the Rocky Mount City Council.

The Middle Ground Association held its Annual Training Institute at the Roanoke Tabernacle, Gold Point, N. C., on January 14-25. Classes were held each night for two and one-half (2½) hours. There were two weeks of classes and dynamic sermons. Participants for the weeks were: the Reverends J. L. Farmer, F. W. Davis, T. R. Vines, E. L. Powell, H. H. Moore, J. H. Chance, W. B. Moore, Jesse E. Williams, G. E. Brown, J. H. Dixon, C. M. Deloatch and Sisters Lucy Gray and Rosa Purvis. Dr. A. D. Moseley also served as instructor. The total enrollment was 481.

National S.S. & B.T.U. Congress To Hold Regional Meeting In Charlotte

Fifteen hundred delegates from Virginia, West Virginia, South and North Carolina will converge on Charlotte for a three day regional meeting of the National Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress, March 13, 14 & 15.

Host churches will be the University Park Baptist Church, Corner, Keller and Senior Drive, Rev. James Palmer, Pastor; and Friendship Baptist, 3301 Beatties Ford Road. Registration will be held at both churches.

The meeting will open Wednesday at 12:00 noon with the key sermon being given by Rev. W. L. Wilson, President, Baptist State Convention of South Carolina.

A mass choir, composed of members from local Baptist Churches will present a Singspiration Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at Friendship. The Choir will be under the direction of Mr. Gerado Stroud, Minister of Music, Friendship Baptist

Church and Mrs. Jean Kerry, Minister of Music, Greater Mt. Sinai Baptist Church.

Thursday's sermon will be delivered by Dr. Robert Taylor of Richmond, Virginia, and Thursday night by Dr. C. A. W. Clark, Pastor, Good Street Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, and Executive Editor of the National Baptist Voice, Official Organ of the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc.

Dr. E. A. Freeman, President of the National Congress, of Kansas City, will bring the closing sermon on Friday at noon.

There will be six classes and five Seminars led by Dr. C. R. Edwards, President, General Baptist State Convention of N. C. and the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention; Dr. J. D. Ballard, Winston-Salem, Rev. Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education G. B. S. C. of N. C.; Dr. E. B. Turner, Lumberton, N. C.; Rev. C. C. Craig, Assistant to the Executive Secretary, G. V. S. C. of N. C.; Mr. Lassiter and Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the G. B. S. C. of N. C.

National officers in attendance, aside from Dr. Freeman, will be Dr. T. Oscar Chappell, Vice President, Oklahoma, and Dr. Robert Penn, Dean, Atlanta, Georgia.

With exception of Wednesday, the day sessions will be held at the University Park Baptist Church and night sessions at Friendship.

The Reverend Coleman Kerry is Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church and the Reverend James Palmer is Pastor of the University Park Baptist Church.

The Layman at Worship

By HENRY D. COOPER

Laymen's Worker

A layman has an opportunity to exert great influence upon people around him by the way in which he participates in worship services. From the moment that he walks into the sanctuary and takes his seat in prayerful meditation, his actions can show that he is giving the best which he has to the Master, that he is receiving the full inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and that he is leading some unsure person into the safety and security of Christian brotherhood.

First of all, a person attending church must not be in the same frame of mind as when he is attending a concert or a school graduation exercise. He is not looking for entertainment. He must not feel that he has given up his golf game for the purpose of hearing the choir sing fine music, nor that he has delayed taking a spin in his boat in order to have his ears tickled by silvery oratory from the minister's tongue. Divine worship is defined by an authoritative Christian encyclopedia

as "the recognition of the supreme and infinite excellence of God and our total submission to Him." We place ourselves in the proper avenue of approach by asking Jesus Christ to intercede for us, because we bear in mind that "... God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (St. John 3:16) We remember, too, that the Savior told Thomas, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (St. John, 14:6)

Thus, we may come to the point and say that the purpose of a worshipper is to become more closely drawn into the fellowship of the Divine Family, along with others who have the same desire. He cannot make much progress in this direction if he has filled his time with materialistic concerns just before 11:00 A. M. on Sunday and is rushing to resume such plans at 1:00 P.M. And if he just sits and passively enjoys what someone else does, he will leave the service very little better off than when he entered. A person's own efforts are required for his advancement, and this rule is borne out for the body by the taking of exercise, and for the mind by engaging in concentrated study. So, practice is equally effective for a soul which seeks to establish residence around the throne of God.

The layman might wish to consider the following aspects of preparation for, and engaging in, worship:

The previous day: Get household needs and clothing provided for, and the automobile prepared. Get money changed, and collection envelopes filled and labeled.

Sunday morning: The layman should not have any business which needs attention, as he will want to read the lesson over before going to Sunday School. He can also help his wife prepare breakfast and wash the dishes, so they and the children can all go together. He will not eat peanuts, drink alcohol, or inhale tobacco smoke before entering the sanctuary, because people near him will smell the odor on his breath and become nauseated.

Arriving on time: The layman would wish to be seated for a few moments of meditation before the processional. The processional is simply the orderly entrance of identified groups of worshippers. The ushers are early to take their posts and give a solemn air to the gathering. Usually the Pastor and deacons enter first, from a session of consultation and prayer in the study. The choir members follow, singing a song of victory. Other groups, such as deaconesses and organized laymen would do well to add their influence to the spiritual power of the occasion by taking their places in a methodical manner.

Singing: The layman seeks to memorize the words, and to know the meaning of the words, of many of our inspiring hymns. Then he can put his full feeling into the music, and even enjoy standing while singing. Does he ever consume all of his strength by yelling at a game on Friday night, so that he is exhausted when church time comes? When the members of the choir sing, let him feel that those talented volunteers have spent time in rehearsals not to entertain him but to worship God through a beautiful medium which he would like to use himself. They are his proxy; let his soul be elevated by their radiance.

Leading or joining in prayer: The layman in his Bible reading has become informed concerning the purpose of prayer and what should be included when one communicates with God. He should also know what one should not ask God for. Some good pointers are given in St. Matthew, Chapter 6.

Listening to the sermon: Dr. Frank Staggs, of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, emphasizes in his book **New Testament Theology**, that it belongs to the ministry of the church to preach the gospel. The gospel is the good news that God has come in the person of his anointed, the Christ, to establish His kingdom rule, judging and overcoming all hostility and providing deliverance to all who will receive it." He draws this fact from numerous exhortations by Jesus and the saints which appear in the New Testament. A person should not allow himself to

become inattentive while this vital aspect of worship is in progress.

Bearing witness: Witnessing to what God has done for us is to be the natural and normal function of the Christian, both at worship and in the community. A person who is inwardly moved by a realization of need for God will show his feeling in some outward way. It may be through a smile, or by a nod of the head. It could be shown by uttering a timely Amen. In Romans 9:25 Paul said, "... the spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." The strong Christian needs to show his commitment in some manner for the benefit of the person beside him whose faith needs to be strengthened.

Giving: Stewardship is to acknowledge that one is in the kingdom of God and therefore under the absolute claim of God. So, we give through the church to return to God a part of that with which He has entrusted us. Further, Jesus said (Matthew 25:40): "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Therefore we give also to make a partial payment on our debt to Jesus.

In conclusion, we may safely say that the various acts performed by a person engaged in divine worship may be improved and be made more meaningful by study and practice, so that the experiences will be of greater benefit to himself and a stronger influence upon his neighbor.

MOTELS FOR NATIONAL CONGRESS

All Motels are located along I-85. Those driving should follow the direction for Exit for each Motel. To get to the Churches, follow the signs for Beatties Ford Road.

FRIENDSHIP

3301 Beatties Ford Road

UNIVERSITY PARK

Senior and Keller Drive

Senior Drive is off Beatties Ford Road

Reservations — First Come, First Served

Headquarters Motel

Holiday Inn — 5301 I-85 North — 596-9390

Exit — Sugar Creek Road

Other Motels

King's Kastle.....	I-85 North.....	597-0470
Ramada Inn.....	4330 I-85 North.....	596-7020
Scottish Inn.....	I-85 South.....	394-2371
Bradley Motel.....	4200 I-85 South.....	392-3206
Holiday Inn.....	2707 Little Rock Rd.....	394-4301
Rodeway Inn.....	4040 I-85 South.....	(800) 228-200
Royal Villa.....	3101 I-85 South.....	394-3381
Lemon Tree.....	4115 Glenwood Dr. I-85.....	394-4131
Horne's Motor Lodge.....	1240 I-85.....	394-7311
Day's Inn.....	4419 Tuckaseege Rd.....	394-5181

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH, 1974

NUMBER 3

TUNE UP AND GET READY !!!

FOR THE

ONE DAY SESSION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

TO BE HELD AT THE

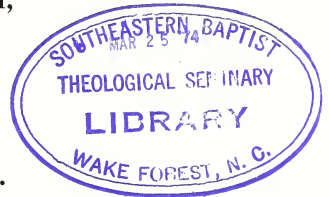
SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH,

Henderson, North Carolina

The Rev. R. W. Perry, Pastor

BEGINNING AT 10:00 A. M.

DR. C. R. EDWARDS, PRESIDING



THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

God is calling us during this season of Lent to examine again our relationship with Christ. Our times are plagued with crisis of various kinds. There is crisis in our government. Fuel shortages have greatly altered our travels and transportation. To get gasoline to operate our automobiles, in most cases, we have to wait in line. Food prices are soaring above reason. Then we have to wait in line at the check out counter to pay these outrageous disappointment, this seems to be a real good time for all of us to get in line with Jesus. We are reminded during this season, more than ever, to line up with Jesus brings us to the redeeming experience that life never ends with the hammers of Good Friday, but above all of this is the glorious resurrection of Sunday morning. Listen as he says—"Because I live, you shall live also."

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

ONE DAY SESSION WILL BE A "DAY TO REMEMBER"

MODERATORS — PASTORS AND LAYMEN
FROM ALL OVER THE STATE

An Inspiring Program will be presented

Sermons—Addresses—Reports will be given

Everyone will be reporting so that \$75,000.00 can
be raised AT THIS MEETING.

HELP US PLEASE!!!

We need your help! When you or someone in your church moves, please send us the change of address at the earliest possible time. The Post Office sends us the changes when they have a forwarding address—but at a cost of ten cents (\$.10) each. You can quickly see that if we have nearly a thousand address changes in a year this amounts to quite a sum of money. You can help us save most of this by sending address changes promptly.

CORRECTION:

The one day session of the Laymen's League will meet at the Rock Hill Baptist Church, Asheville on April 20 NOT April 13.

Woman's Page----

Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina

Dear Co-Worker:

1. Our Convention is operating this year on 11 months rather than 12 months (A Full year).
2. The Books of the Convention will close May 31st—One (1) Month earlier.
3. The Woman's Convention Budget is \$75,000.00 for Missions and Christian Education.
4. At the Mid-Year Session we rallied for our Baptist Assembly. The Lord blessed us! We thank you and our heavenly Father.
5. My visit to Haiti was a successful one. Our children Reverend and Mrs. John Daniels are doing an excellent job working with the Haitians and building a Guest Home and Clinic. Please pray for them.
6. Therefore, we need your help for **FOREIGN MISSIONS AND STATE MISSION**. You have never failed the cause.
7. Are you an A-1 Department?
8. Will you receive a ribbon for Regularity?
9. Please send in an extra contribution for all objectives. **I Am Not Begging—I Am Just Pleading For Help.**

NOTE: Proposed Date

Saturday, April 27th

Dedication of Baptist Assembly,
Laurinburg, N. C.

Your Executive Secretary

The 5th Annual State-Wide Leaders' Workshop

DATE: Saturday, April 6, 1974

WHERE: The Shaw University, Raleigh

HOURS: 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

The Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention will sponsor its 5th Annual State-Wide Leaders' Workshop, Saturday, April 6, 1974, The Shaw University Campus from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

THEME: "TOGETHERNESS—LETS TALK IT OVER"

THIS WORKSHOP IS FOR THE FOLLOWING
LOCAL AND STATE OFFICERS:

Circle Presidents	Young Adult Directors
Union Presidents	Young Adult Presidents
Auxiliary Presidents	Youth Supervisors
Vice Presidents	Youth State Advisors
Special Workers	State Vice Presidents

Year-Round Committees Chairmen and
Co-Chairmen

District Conference Chairmen and Co-Chairmen

If you are a Leader in any of the above offices
—you should be present and on time.

If you are a President—you should notify and
bring your **Vice Presidents, Young Adult Director,
Young Adult President, Youth Supervisor** and
your **County Special Worker**.

If you are a Y. A. Director bring your Presi-
dent with you.

Registration Fee \$2.00

Dinner (Shaw University) 1.25

Begin Praying for a successful meeting.

Yours for the Cause,
J. B. McLester, President
Berthenia D. Horne
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



This is the story of how a crisis turned out to be a solution to the problem.

It all started in 1972 when Rev. B. A. Mack, pastor of Morehead Avenue Baptist Church called upon his Mission Treasurer for money to donate to the General Baptist State Convention. The Mission treasure was exhausted, no funds were available.

The reason: donations had been given to the Union Christian Bible Institute, The Emancipation Proclamation Celebration, The Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial, the strikers at Duke Cafeteria, a family whose home had been destroyed by fire, the NAACP membership drive, and many other charitable purposes.

The One Day session of the State Convention were scheduled to meet in Charlotte, time was running out and Rev. Mack had to act fast in order to get ready for that session. He came to his pulpit Sunday morning, April 23, 1972 and selected 12 Young Adult ladies from his congregation who were not too active in any of the other clubs.

This group of young ladies were organized that same day into a club called "The State Workers Club", their goals were to raise money exclusively for the State Convention. When the one day session met in Charlotte, they had raised over \$200.00 dollars and went to the convention to make their report.

They enjoyed it so well until they decided to do this every year. This is the group of young ladies you see at the one day session each year. They enjoy their work. Their pastor is grateful to them.

LAYMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION

Of The
General Baptist State Convention
Of
North Carolina, Inc.

The Laymen's League's One Day Session will be held April 20, 1974, with The Rock Hill Baptist Church, 501 Caribou Road, Asheville, N. C., Reverend H. B. Ferguson, Pastor.

Theme: "Accounting For Our World
Stewardship"

Workshop for Laymen will be held by Dr. E. B. Turner and Brother H. D. Cooper.

Workshop for the Ambassadors will be conducted by Rev. Wilch Caldwell, Brother James Lawrence, and Brother Zeno Borders.

—REGISTRATION—

Laymen \$1.50 Ambassador (Boys) \$1.00
(Please bring more boys)

Registration will start at 10:00 A.M.

Committee: Brothers Johnny Johnson, James Grier and Ranson Williams.

Lunch: Host Church in Charge 12:00 Noon

The Laymen in Asheville are preparing the Program for the Session to be held at 1:00 P.M.

A Young Congregation Keeps Pace In Her Move Forward . .

All Is Well!!

By: Clyde J. Mungo

It was on the second Sunday in November 1970, we had our first Sunday School and Morning Worship in the home of Brother C. J. Mungo. I just could not believe it!

We had been meeting for several weeks in preparation for organizing a church. The Sunday School lesson was taught by Brother Munjo and it was a great beginning!

We were chartered on the fifth Sunday in January 1971 by the Mt. Peace Association and

this congregation has moved forward STEP BY STEP every since. We only missed one service due to heat failure on last January.

On the first Sunday in February, Mrs. Annie J. Heath was crowned "Mrs. St. Mark". She raised more money for the building fund than the others. She raised \$773.88 in about sixty (60) days, and that night our Building Fund offering was more than \$3,500.00.

Mrs. Heath was sick and shut-in in 1973, and she did a marvelous job. We hope to build in 1974. The Pastor, Reverend James Heath, Jr. and the members ask for your prayers as we enter this great challenge. As of the first of 1974, St. Mark's membership totaled 58.

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 20—One Day Session, Laymen's League, Rock Hill, Asheville

May 14—Moderator's Clinic, Shiloh, Henderson

May 15—One Day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Shiloh, Henderson

June 17-21—National Baptist S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, U. S. A., Inc., Detroit, Mich.

June 17-21—National Baptist S. S. Congress of America

June 17-21—Progressive Congress of Christian Education, Philadelphia, Pa.

July 16-18—Ushers' Convention, Mt. Vernon, Durham

July 29-Aug. 2—Woman's Convention, First, Winston-Salem

Aug. 6-8—State S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, First, Fayetteville

Aug. 26-30—Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Shiloh, Greensboro, N. C.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Buffalo, N. Y.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention of America, Nashville, Tenn.

Sept. 3-8—Progressive Baptist Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

Nov. 5-6—General Baptist State Convention & Laymen's League Convention, First, Raleigh

Nov. 6-8—Joint Session (General Baptist and State Convention), Raleigh Memorial Auditorium

President's Address Laymen's League Convention

By Frank H. Marshall

(Given at Greater Saint Paul Baptist Church, Durham, N. C., October 29, 1973)

Mr. President, Mr. McQueen, members of the General Baptist State Convention, Members, Messengers, and Friends, of the Twenty-Fourth Annual session of the Baptist Laymen's League Convention of North Carolina:

Once again we have met in our Annual Session to give an account of our stewardship for this convention year. We have met to receive information, to share inspiration, to hear reports, and to fellowship and to worship together. Also, may we rededicate ourselves to the Convention and to the service of the Master.

This year has been a profitable one, both spiritually and financially. I am thankful to God first, then to the very fine pastors and the many dedicated laymen throughout North Carolina.

We are very grateful to the very fine work that has been done through the effort of Mr. Henry D. Cooper, our Director of Men's Work. Mr. Cooper, we pray that you might have strength with which to do that which lies ahead. The progress of the Laymen's Convention rests heavily upon your shoulders, because we realize that the great reservoir of dedicated Christian laymen over the State of North Carolina has not yet been tapped. Many laymen have not heard about the Laymen's Convention, its work, or its possibilities.

Our joint session this year with the Brotherhood Department of the Baptist State Convention, in March of this year, was the best that we have had. More of our laymen and boys attended this session than any before. We thank every pastor and layman who made this possible. We have already discussed the possibility of having another joint session next year. Since the ministers will be meeting in a joint session, we feel that we should also. You will be hearing more about this later.

The Fellowship Conference which was held at Lake Junaluska this year was a great improvement in lay attendance over previous years. However, it left much to be desired. We could certainly promote better human relationship by attending meetings of this type. As soon as I hear from Dr. Sherrill and Reverend Corbin Cooper that they are planning another meeting, I will see that notice is given and I hope that each of you will plan to attend.

The meeting of the Pan American Union of Baptist Men and the tour of the Holy Land which

was to begin Thursday of this week has been cancelled, because of the conflict which they are having in the Middle East. However, the Holy Land tour has been rescheduled for February 18-29 in 1974. The itinerary and price will remain the same, and we do hope that more of our laymen and pastors will go with us. For forty people and above, the price will be \$663 per person, with almost everything included, leaving from New York.

I was not able to attend the National and State Conventions this year as I have in the past. My name was placed on the program without my knowledge, and when I found out about it, it was too late for me to get leave from my employment.

This seems to be one of the most trying years of our country. We were glad to see a partial end of the war in Viet Nam and Cambodia and to see many of the soldiers and prisoners of war come home, but were disappointed in Watergate, corruption, the resignation of the vice-president, Mr. Agnew, and talk of impeachment of President Nixon, plus a new war in the Middle East and a religious war in Ireland.

We have seen men forced to resign—fired, and some just put out of their jobs. We have seen murder from organized crime to street brawls, and even in the privacy of the home. I have never heard of so many women killing their husbands, and husbands killing their wives; children killing their parents, and parents killing their children. It seems to be open season on those you once loved, but now for some reason can't stand, but hate.

We have seen the breakdown of our National and State governments, our public school systems, the family and home life, and even many of our organized churches. Often we are made to shake our heads, and ask ourselves, "Why?"

Is there no balm in Gilead, to save sin-sick Soul?

Our Sunday School lessons for this year are just as up-to-date as tomorrow's newspaper. We are committing the same sin that was committed thousands of years ago. The first Sunday in September, we studied about the Disunity of the Church at Corinth. The city was so wicked the name "Corinthian" became synonymous with wickedness. The Apostle Paul founded a church there. Later, division and disorder developed among the members, and Paul's first letter was simply to try to resolve the condition of things at that church. He said (1 Cor. 1:10) "I appeal to you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and same judgment." The word "united" is also used

medically, describing the knitting together of bones which have been fractured. Thus, disunion is unnatural and must be cured for the sake of the health and efficiency of the church.

Fighting Christians have kept many unbelievers from listening to and accepting the Good News of Christ, and these include ministers as well as laymen, as I observed while visiting the National Convention in Kansas City, in 1961.

Some pastors say they will never organize a laymen's movement within their church. Have they not read Ephesians 4:11-16? May I quote a portion: "He gave some apostles, some prophets, and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers." The Living Bible continues, "Why is it that He gives us these special abilities? It is that God's people will be equipped to do better work for Him, building up the church, the body of Christ, to a position of strength and maturity." I know of no better place that a minister can do this than through a lay movement.

According to the 1972 World Almanac, the population of the world was 3,631,797,000. Of this number, only 5 1/4% are dedicated Christians. At the rate we are going, we will never win the world for Christ. It will take thousands of years just to tell each person about God's saving grace. The ministers cannot possibly do it alone. God never meant for them to do it alone. The laymen must help.

Laymen, if your church should burn down, will it be missed in your community? We must admit that, when we consider the work of the early church and its effectiveness, we are not doing very much. Every Christian should be a soul-winner.

So many times when someone asks a layman, Are you a minister or preacher? the layman will answer by saying, "No, I am just a layman." Brethren, never apologize for being a layman. If you are a Christian layman, doing the will of God in your life, you are just as important in the sight of God as anyone else. There is no big "I" and little "You" in God's Kingdom work. We have different jobs to do, but all are equally important.

Read your Bible and see for yourselves how Ezra, Nehemiah, Amos, Priscilla and Aquilla who were laymen let God use them. Dr. Turner told us yesterday that early Christianity was a lay movement. The early disciples were not ordained ministers, but laymen. Yet it was said of them that they turned the world upside down.

So, brother laymen, we must catch a zeal for the lost. We must be concerned. When all of our actions are motivated by love, it makes a big difference. Yes, there is indeed a more excellent way!

THE CARETAKER

The pet acts strangely and won't eat. Obviously it is ill. But it's only a dumb animal. So who cares?

You care . . . because the pet is loveable, living proof that mere creatures—unhindered by mankind's prejudices, cruelties and complexities—measure up to their purposes on earth. You care because it is your pet and love it . . . enough not to let it suffer and die for lack of attention.

The automobile is neither inconsistent nor junk. It just requires proper servicing. But it's only a car. So who cares?

You care . . . because the car is a marvelous, useful model of that deceptive ingenuity which enables man to build genuine democracy into a machine easier than within himself. You care because it is your car and it represents an outlay of too much hard-earned money not to rate all the time, expense and trouble of having it regularly serviced with, and by, the best.

The job isn't the world's greatest. Neither is the pay. And advancements seem to travel by mule train. But it's only a job. So who cares?

You care . . . because you know that a job—any job is a junction for opportunity and nobody gets far without one. You care because it is your job and you like it . . . enough to give it all you've got, and then some!

The country is in terrible shape. Various reports claim that its waters are hopelessly polluted; that its air is unfit to breathe; that it wallows in past glories, thrives on war, exploits the underprivileged, mistreats minorities, ignores God and worships the dollar; that its government taxes some citizens to death, kills others with luxury and murders still others via starvation. Even some of its own educational and political leaders decry the country as doomed; But it's only a country. So who cares?

You care . . . because you believe that, with all its difficulties at home and abroad, it still is the greatest country and that one of its most aggravating ailments is caused by acid heads and myriad odd balls marching with well-meaning, soap opera alarmists whose thing obviously is to make catastrophes of all difficulties and thereby contribute to, instead of correcting, the country's ills. You care because it is your country and you love it . . . enough not to merely look on apathetically and give it up as God-forsaken and lost.

The family has its problems, internal and otherwise. But it's only a family. So who cares?

You care . . . because you realize that the world can't be a better place until all families are better families—and that the most important missionary field is right at home. You care because it is your family and you love it . . . enough not to let it disintegrate for want of dedicated effort.

The church is in trouble. It was broken into one night; its study vandalized, ransacked and robbed. Worse yet, its main purpose is impeded by absentees and other members who seem stricken by an evil malady that masquerades somewhat innocently as "so-what-ism"! But it's only a church. So who cares?

You Care . . . because you know that the church is an eternal fountain of faith where the goof-off list never includes God. You care because it is your church and you love it.

But do you really care? Do you really love your church . . . sufficiently to give it its just share of such energies as you expend on your pet, car, job, country and family?

Of course you do . . . because your faith is firm and true enough to keep you aware that you are indeed your church's caretaker!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if every members was?

A LITTLE PRAYER

*A little prayer I started to pray,
But decided to wait til the close of the day.
At the end of the day I was too tired,
A few moments of rest was all I desired.
My knees were stiff, too stiff to bend,
And besides all that, I had not sinned.
I'm good you know, or can't you tell,
Each Sunday I go and ring the bell.
So I kept waiting until the day has passed,
My eyes were heavy, and I fell asleep at last.
The next morning I awoke with a terrible flash,
The sun shone brightly through the glass.
That day I needed the Lord you know,
More than I had ever needed Him before.
So I decided to pray that prayer at last.
But I was too late my chance has passed,
I should have prayed morning, night and noon,
But didn't know I'd need the Lord so soon.
The Lord will answer pray you know,
But to Him daily each must go.
The time to pray is when you feel the yearning.
And in your heart the desire is burning.
Next time I surely will not wait,
An He will gladly control my fate.*

M. Philip McCleave

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

1972 - 1973



TOTAL BUDGETED — \$600,000.00

**GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

603 South Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

O. L. SHERRILL, Executive Secretary

UNITED PLAN TOTAL-BUDGET

If churches will contribute through the Unified Plan the budget can support the various causes as follows:

Christian Education	44%	\$177,760.00
Shaw University		
State Missions	30%	121,200.00
Foreign Mission	20%	80,800.00
Central Orphanage	6%	24,240.00
Designated Gifts		15,000.00
Transmittals		6,000.00
Woman's Convention		175,000.00
TOTAL BUDGETT		\$600,000.00

Designated gifts reach certain individuals—
The Unified Plan reaches the whole world.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . . ?
(Matt. 23:19)

Send gifts to:

General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc.,
603 S. Wilmington Street—Raleigh, N. C. 27601

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE FOR CHARTER PLANES!

Those who desire to attend the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., in September on the chartered plane should make their reservations at once.

One plane is scheduled to leave from Charlotte and another from Raleigh on Tuesday afternoon, September 3, 1974, and return on Saturday afternoon, September 7, 1974.

COST: Unless an increase in cost of fuel is made, the price should remain at \$175. This package price includes:

Transfers roundtrip between the airport and hotel

Porterage at the airport

Baggage in and out of the hotel

A Deluxe Buffalo-Niagara Falls Tour

4 nights accommodations (two in a room)

RESERVATIONS: There are only 95 seats on each plane and they will be assigned on a first come basis. Reservations should be made immediately by sending a deposit of \$25.00 per person. The balance will be due anytime between now and July 1, 1974.

..... Please clip on this line.....

RESERVATION FORM

Name Date.....

Mailing Address
Street or Box

City State Zip

Church Roommate

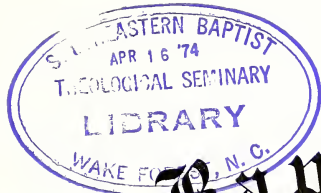
Amount Enclosed \$..... I will depart from
(check one):

Telephone Raleigh-Durham Airport.....

Charlotte Airport.....

Make reservation check in the amount of \$25.00 for each person payable to: General Baptist Plane, and mail to:

General Baptist Plane
P. O. Box 6172
Raleigh, N. C. 27608



Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, APRIL, 1974

NUMBER 4

ONE DAY SESSION of the GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

to be held at

THE SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

Henderson, North Carolina

The Reverend R. W. Perry, Pastor

MAY 15, 1974

Program

10:00 A. M.	Devotion	Sam Moss, P. L. Wood
10:15 A. M.	Welcome Program	Host Church
10:30 A. M.	Welcome Remarks	President C. R. Edwards
10:45 A. M.	Auxiliary Reports:	
	Mrs. J. B. McLester	Arthur Williams
	O. L. Sherrill	Frank Marshall
	Leo Williams	Clifton Stone
	J. W. Martin	George Dudley

12:00 Noon Sermon J. W. White

AFTERNOON

2:00 P. M. Devotion C. E. Gray, L. A. Melvin
2:15 P. M. Greetings:

J. Archie Hargraves
W. C. Somerville
H. V. Bryant

Committee Reports

3:00 P. M. Sermon W. C. Horton
Announcements
Adjournment

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

*Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist
Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Ra-
leigh, North Carolina 27601.*

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to
Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of
Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

THE MONTH OF APRIL

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER ?

This year the month of April brings us "Easter." But what does this mean?

To most churches and preachers, it means a "PACKED HOUSE".

To most people going to church it is an "EASTER PARADE" of new outfits (from head to toe), and new hairdos, and everyone participating that is if everything you have on is NEW!

A lot of ministers will be glad because they will have a chance to greet and fellowship with members and people whom they have not seen all year and whom they probably will not see the remainder of the year unless there is another EASTER.

Doesn't one of these meanings seem familiar to you? But it is NOT too late for a change. (Better late than never!)

PEOPLE OF THE MONTH

There are two members of the Headquarter's Staff having birthdays this month:

Mrs. Gladys Watlington, Office Bookkeeper of the Woman's Convention, will be ?? years old on APRIL 10.

Miss Josephine Tyner, Secretary of our Baptist Informer, will be ?? years old on April 14.

WE ARE APPLAUDING YOU THIS MONTH!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH . .

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

And, behold . . . the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door.

And the angel . . . said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth, before you go into Galilee; there shall ye see him.

Matthew 28: 1-2, 5-7

And he departed from our sight that he might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is there.

St. Augustine

Subscribe Now

to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

Woman's Page----

HOW ABOUT YOUR BENEFIT BANQUET TICKETS? THE TICKETS ARE \$10.00 EACH. THE BANQUET WILL BE HELD AS A PRE-CONVENTION AFFAIR.

MONDAY, JULY 29, 1974—6:00 P. M.

THE HILTON INN

MARSHALL AND HIGH STREETS

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

WHAT TO WEAR:

Formal—Semi Formal or Dress Up Attire

**BANQUET SPEAKER: Dr. Jerry Drayton,
pastor**

**New Bethel Baptist
Church—Winston-
Salem**

Send For Your Tickets Now. We Trust You.
Sell The Tickets and Forward Money. Make All
Checks Payable To Your

WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
Deadline For Tickets July 12, 1974. Every Pres-
ident Needs At Least 4 Tickets. The President,
Four Vice Presidents And Friends.

CALENDARS—OUR HAITI MISSIONARIES

Send for some calendars with the picture of
our own children in Haiti on it. The calendars
are \$1.00 each. This is the first time we have
had our own missionaries on a calendar. Send
today and sell them.

LITERATURE: We Have Young Adult Hand-
books

Youth Handbooks
Guidelines For Leaders—
\$2.00 each

The Guidelines For Leaders Are
Off The Press And Can Be Pur-
chased From Your Woman's
Baptist State Convention Office.

STOP ! LOOK ! READ !!!

1974 James F. Wertz

B. T. U. ORATORICAL CONTEST

SUBJECTS:

1. "THE CHRISTIANS' VIEW OF WATER-
GATE"
2. "SHARING OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH"
3. "BUILDING A LIFE FOR CHRIST"
4. "CHRIST IS THE ANSWER"
5. "CHRIST SPEAKS TO LOVE"
6. "WILL THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH"
7. "NO ROOM FOR QUITTERS"
8. "THE MASTER IS ABLE"
9. "A RECIPE FOR HAPPINESS"
10. "PREPARE TO SERVE"

RULES:

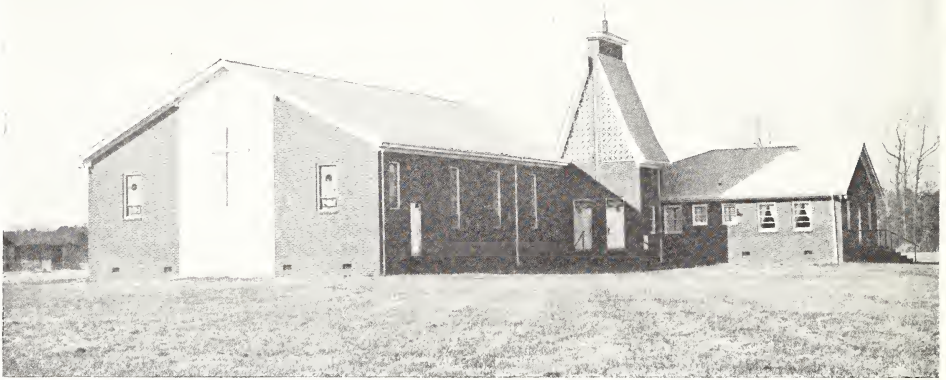
1. The contest is open to high school gradu-
ates and college freshmen who are active
B. T. U. members.
2. Contestants must be certified by a local
B. T. U. Director.
3. Each contestant will choose one of the
subjects listed above.
4. Each contestant must compose and learn
his speech.
5. Each contestant will have 5 minutes.
6. Contestants will be judged on content,
composition and delivery.
Content will count 25%, composition
25%, and delivery 50%.
7. The two top winners will receive scholar-
ships. First place \$150.00 and Second
place \$100.00.
8. Non-winning contestants will receive a
certificate of participation.

Each year, young people are encouraged to en-
ter the James W. Wertz Oratorical Contest, spon-
sored as a part of the State B. T. U. Congress.
This, not only, is an opportunity, but a privilege.

Churches, Associations and District Con-
ventions can do much to encourage and inspire young
people to take advantage of this opportunity.

Local church contests, associational contests,
county-wide contests, district contests etc., should
precede the state contest and the winners of the
local contest will compete at the state level.

Mrs. Hazel McLean, Director
Box 185-Caledonia Road
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352



THE NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH, Murfreesboro, N. C.—This is the second church built. The first one (exactly like the first one) was destroyed by fire in 1968. The debt was relinquished within FIVE years.



The Senior Deacons, (from left to right) Clifton Manley, Luther Grant and William Parker, destroy with fire all traces of indebtedness that might impede the progress.

Mortgage Burning Ceremony Held

The NEBO BAPTIST CHURCH of Murfreesboro, North Carolina took its place in the annals of history on the first Sunday in December 1973 when a mortgage burning ceremony occurred. What a day of rejoicing and thanksgiving! This is the second new church. The first one (exactly like this one) was destroyed by fire in 1968. Dr. C. Melvin Creecy, encouraged by a Committee of Concern, held together a confused and bewildered flock of people and decided that with God's help all things are possible.

Under his leadership, the flock gained strength and determination to work toward one common Cause. It was not easy, but with hard work, sacrifice and helping hands of friends, the seemingly impossible dream came true.

ABOUT THE PASTOR

Dr. C. Melvin Creecy received his A.B., B.D., and D.D. Degrees from Shaw University. He has further studied at Andover Newton Theological Seminary, Boston, Mass. and North Carolina Central University, Durham.

He is currently the second Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention; member of the Trustee Board, Shaw University and member of the Executive Board of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention.

He is also a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity and other civic and religious organizations.

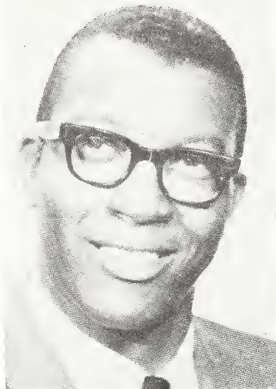
Other churches that he pastor includes: Zoar Baptist, Pendleton; New Bethany, and Indian Woods, Windsor.

Dr. Creecy is known to most of his members and colleagues as "PAP".



PRESIDENT MARTIN SPEAKS TO US

Given at the State Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress, August, 1973.



FROM CHALLENGE, TO ACCOMPLISHMENT

Let us look at the word challenge, it invites one into competition, to require, to move on to greater activity, or develop a more retaining power. And throughout this session the word challenge has been used religiously. Meeting the challenge of the Seventies, meeting the challenge in these social changes, and in the different phases of the overall church program, but as we move ahead into the seventies, we need to move from the challenge to the accomplished.

As we review the word accomplishment, an act of completion—a special skill or ability acquired by training or practice. To accomplish a job, we execute fully—No half way job. So, with having met the challenge we grow stronger, and more resourceful, having accomplished something, the challenge is met by our higher achievement.

Therefore, the fulfillment of our aims thus far and the performance of the work we seek to do, should equip us with the know how, whereby, we can realize the goal that is before us.

It is true that we cannot place the value of success upon any individual, nor, is there any one Sunday School, or any one convention to be credited for this work, but the togetherness, of all working for the one outlook.

Nevertheless, this work of the congress can be identified by leaders with integrity and divine

guidance, which has inspired man to know that God still lives.

We should have a deep appreciation today for those who had the foresight to build the foundation and structure, and, to outline the objectives of this work. But at times, we seem to take things for granted. For it was out of the past of those who labored and struggled, and it was from the sweat and tears, the agony and setback that it took to pave the way, where we ought to be grateful. But through all this we will not avail ourselves to the training and teaching that is exposed to us through the facilities of the Department of Christian Education that is being offered, that with this training we will know how to meet the various challenge and realize the accomplishment.

Today, we are involved in many different challenges all at the same time. We find ourselves faced with the National success and problems. Our State, our cities, our communities, our Church, and even the home problems—involve us to the extent that we get burdened. We have to stop and stand still, we get tired, but, we have been taught not to get weary. For they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings as Eagles, they shall run and not get weary, they shall walk and not faint. A consoling thought when obstacles confront us.

Knowing that it takes courage, and that courage is the strength of our minds, capable of conquering whatever threatens the attainment of the highest goal. But, when we unite courage with wisdom and knowledge our challenge becomes reality where we see our accomplished.

The department of Christian Education have a well balanced program designed for the total involvement of all that will avail themselves for training. The workshops, Clinics, the training Institutes are conducted by qualified personnel, that will enable one to get equipped for successful service. For education is the backbone to anyone that will avail themselves to learn and improve their know how. Another challenge that is being accomplished.

In our Church Schools we have the greatest opportunity to reach the young minds and develop them into this great work. For other involvements today, National and local, we find our youth taking part in nearly every situation, whether its good or bad. And we don't try to limit them.

Today the youth are involving themselves in sports, styles and fashions, education, music and

many others, but when youth involvement is mentioned in the Church, it is laid on the line to them.

Many times opposition came from older members, because they fear losing their position. I am aware that the young people do need guidance, this is where we as adults become important in helping shape their lives and future. A challenge we need to accomplish.

In this life and this work we find that we are faced with conflicts and many responsibilities, but, this is the challenge. Let us ask ourselves this question. Does God lay down any hard rules for us to follow about work? The scripture answers that for us, It tells us to ask and it shall be given.

King Solomon, as the Almighty disturbed his mind with a burning thought saying, "Ask what I shall give thee?" He could have asked for riches untold, but, he asked for wisdom, knowledge and an understanding heart, then we should apply ourselves with the same kind of desire for our work.

For God intended no man to be idle and live in this world "without working", for work is a weapon, a weapon of honor, and he who lack the weapon will never triumph, not even prayer can take the place of work. Men may pray for wealth, but, unless he works he will die poor. So, prayer without work is dead. So, God help and enable us to continue to challenge and do the job, with wisdom and knowledge with an understanding mind as we proceed to accomplish the challenge.

May I make an appeal to you, especially this day? Prepare yourselves to take advantage of the opportunity that is ours. If we as leaders fail now, then we would have failed our forefathers who went before us sowing the seed for this harvest that we are reaping. Truly the harvest is plentiful, but, we cannot receive it, unless, we have that personal experience with Christ, that strengthens our own faith. Then we can more fully share with others the value of our experiences in accomplishing our goals.

I am concerned about the work of each Sunday School, about each convention, and the Church at large, and I call upon each President, each Superintendent and all inspired persons to join forces and work. This is a challenging and continuing adventure,—I find it to be an abundant joy.

We live, we serve, and we die, but, as we live, let us serve to the best of our ability. A splendid opportunity to help others.

State Mission, Central Orphanage, Foreign Mission, and Shaw University, should have our total

concern and interest. The power structure "The Church" should share in all of the objectives throughout the Unified Plan. This Congress must always help meet the demanding challenge that we are involved in. We are committed to share these responsibilities. This Congress must never die, we must always grow and move forward to be an attracting symbol to those who are yet unborn.

My, I state in my conclusion, I am grateful for the honor to serve you, but, I cannot serve my best unless I have the support of all, and your loyal response. Don't get discouraged, for there are those who would rejoice in our failure, but, the world would sleep, if things were run by men who say it cannot be done.

So, when the dare and don't of life confront us, and the challenges seem so far away—

May I leave this thought with you? With the words of Edgar Guest. And I quote . . .

"There are thousands to tell us,
It cannot be done,
There thousands of prophecy failure
There are thousands who point out to you,
one by one, the dangers that wait to assail
you

But just buckle in with a bit of grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it.
Just start to sing, as you tackle the thing,
that "cannot be done" and you'll do it."

JOE PITTMAN PASSES

Funeral services for Mr. Joseph Pittman of Rocky Mount, N. C. were held at the Mount Zion Baptist Church on Tuesday, March 12 at 4:00 P.M. The Reverend George W. Dudley is pastor and delivered the eulogy.

Joe, as everyone knew him, traveled all over North Carolina and other neighboring states as a professional salesman representing Homeland Tailors, in Baltimore; Estelle Dress Company, St. Louis, Missouri; Commercial Ad Incorporated in New York; Paymaster Corp. of Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh; and Norris A. Dodson Incorporated in Washington, D. C.

He was a faithful and dedicated member of the Mount Zion First Baptist Church and served devotedly as a Deacon, Trustee, Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee, a member of the Men's Fellowship and the George W. Circle.

Surviving are his wife, one daughter, two sons, his mother, five sisters, five step-brothers and a host of other relatives and friends.

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE FOR CHARTER PLANES!

Those who desire to attend the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., in September on the chartered plane should make their reservations at once.

One plane is scheduled to leave from Charlotte and another from Raleigh on Tuesday afternoon, September 3, 1974, and return on Saturday afternoon, September 7, 1974.

COST: Unless an increase in cost of fuel is made, the price should remain at \$175. This package price includes:

Transfers roundtrip between the airport and hotel

Porterage at the airport

Baggage in and out of the hotel

A Deluxe Buffalo-Niagara Falls Tour

4 nights accommodations (two in a room)

RESERVATIONS: There are only 95 seats on each plane and they will be assigned on a first come basis. Reservations should be made immediately by sending a deposit of \$25.00 per person. The balance will be due anytime between now and July 1, 1974.

..... Please clip on this line.....

RESERVATION FORM

Name Date.....

Mailing Address
Street or Box

City State Zip

Church Roommate

Amount Enclosed \$..... I will depart from
(check one):

Telephone Raleigh-Durham Airport.....
Charlotte Airport.....

Make reservation check in the amount of \$25.00 for each person payable to: General Baptist Plane, and mail to:

General Baptist Plane
P. O. Box 6172
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

DID YOU KNOW?

At the Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention in 1974, we will recognize the Moderator of the Year. Listed below is the criteria which is used to select a person for such recognition:

1. Lead his pastors and churches to support the objectives of the General Baptist State Convention through the Unified Program.
2. Lead his association to sponsor a well planned associational institute each year. In like manner, he will recommend that each pastor lead his church or churches to have an annual leadership training institute.
3. Lead his pastors in attending the annual meetings of the General Baptist State Convention including the Auxiliaries' Meetings.
4. Lead his pastors in attending the ministers institute each year at Shaw University, and training opportunities at other places, particularly in the state.
5. Lead his pastors in exemplifying a positive attitude and a brotherly relationship with other moderators and pastors.
6. The information will be secured from:
 - a. The Annual Report.
 - b. A form provided by the Baptist Headquarters which each moderator will fill out supplying necessary information.
7. Points will be given based upon the percentages of pastors or churches in the Association which are actively participating.
8. Final evaluation of recommendation be made by the Administrative Committee.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

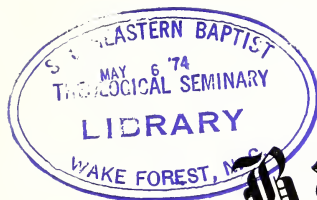
Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601



Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

**Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists**

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, MAY, 1974

NUMBER 5

ONE DAY SESSION

of the

GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

to be held at

THE SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

Henderson, North Carolina

The Reverend R. W. Perry, Pastor

MAY 15, 1974

MODERATORS' WORKSHOP

May 14, 1974
12:00 Noon

MASS MEETING

May 14, 1974
7:00 P. M.

ONE DAY SESSION

May 15, 1974
10:00 A. M.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

DAYS INN located at Interstate 85 and Ruin Creek Road has 140 units with 100 dining room seats. Price per day per room—Single \$8.88, 2 persons in room \$11.88. Call toll free for reservations: 1-800-241-7111.

HOLIDAY INN at Parham Road has 156 units. Single \$12.48 or two persons \$16.64 (both include tax).

Both hotels are about 1½ miles from Shiloh Baptist Church, which is located at 635 COLLEGE STREET. The CHURCH OFFICE PHONE IS: 438-8987.

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
 MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
 C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
 H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAFFER
 COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
 Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist
 Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh,
 North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General
Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
 D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
 J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
 C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
 E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
 J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
 Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
 O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
 C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
 J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
 Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
 W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
 Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

THE MONTH OF MAY

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MOTHERS

Most of all the other beautiful things in life
 come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds.
 Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers
 and sisters, aunts and cousins, but only ONE
 MOTHER in the whole world.

—Kate Douglas Wiggin

The dearest of treasures on earth to me
 are not the things we handle and see
 But memories of years that are filled
 with your love
 With blessings you prayed upon me from above
 The fact that compellingly, gently, you drew
 My soul to the wonderful Savior you knew
 Sharing my joys and banishing tears—
 Your life like a fragrance through all of my years,
 The knowledge that I am surrounded by prayer,
 Committed forever to God's loving care—
 These are the things that really have worth
 The dearest of treasures I have on this earth.
 Your labor of love I can never repay
 But, "Thank you, dear Mother," is all I can say.

—C. E. A.

MOTHER'S LOVE

Her love is like an island
 In life's ocean, vast and wide,
 A peaceful quiet shelter
 From the wind, the rain, the tide.

'Tis bound on the north by Hope
 By Patience on the West

By Tender Counsel on the South
 And on the East by Rest.

Above it like a beacon light
 Shine Faith, and Truth, and Prayer;
 And through the changing scenes of life
 I find a haven there.

—Author Unknown

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY—MAY 12, 1974

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

WHITE OAK DEDICATES NEW CHURCH

Apex, North Carolina



WHITE OAK UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Sunday, April 7 was a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing for the pastor and members of White Oak Baptist Church, Apex. On that date at 10:30 A. M. the pastor, Reverend Charles Tyner and the members marched from the old church to the new edifice, where the keys to the new foundation were presented.

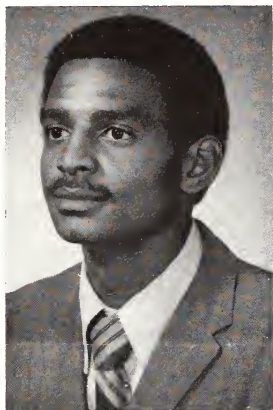
The idea of a new church was conceived shortly after the Reverend Tyner assumed pastoral duties on the third Sunday in February, 1972. He was informed that top priority for physical progress was the annexation of an educational building. However, several members felt that enough money had been spent on the old building and suggested the possibility of building a new church. With less than \$4,000 cash assets it seemed that the realization of a new church would be a few years, hence.

After much meditation and prayerful consideration, Pastor Tyner recommended that a new church be built. The boards considered the recommendation and voted unanimously to accept it. The boards presented the recommendation to the church which was unanimously approved.

Immediately ideas began to be projected as to how the church should be built. Visits were made to churches in Rocky Mount and other areas. Before the end of 1972, a building committee consisting of Pastor Tyner, G. A. Herndon, Chairman; W. H. Mason, M. H. Herndon, John Fuller and Estridge Hatley was chosen. Plans were made, bids sent and financial resources arranged. After solving such problems as clearing the land, correcting the deed of the church property, construction began in August, 1973 with completion during March 1974.

Consultation with various architectural firms revealed that the estimate cost of the new edifice was \$115,000.00!

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN



ABOUT THE PASTOR!!!!

The Reverend Charles R. Tyner was elected as Pastor of the White Oak Baptist Church on February 11, 1972 and began his duties on the third Sunday in February, 1972.

Reverend Tyner was born June 23, 1950 in Northampton County, North Carolina to Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tyner. He grew up under the spiritual guidance of Dr. Charles Melvin Creecy at Nebo Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, North Carolina. He answered the call to the ministry and was licensed in 1968. In 1960, he was ordained by the West Roanoke Association.

Reverend Tyner obtained his secondary education from Willis Hare High School, Conway, North Carolina and his B. A. Degree from Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina in Religion and Philosophy and History. While at Shaw, he was recognized several times for his outstanding contribution to Christian leadership. He is a member of the Shaw Theological Alumni Association, Ministers' Alliance of Hertford County, Voter Registration of Northampton County and Registration Committee of the General Baptist State Convention.

He is also the pastor of the Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Winton; and is married to the former Miss Betty Ricks and has one son.

The White Oak Baptist Church also had a Dedication Banquet on Saturday, April 6. The theme for the occasion was "The Impossible Dream." The featured speaker was Dr. O. L. Sherrill, our Executive Secretary. Other tributes were made by the Reverend James A. Stewart, Pastor

Emeritus; the Reverend J. R. Burt, Pastor of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, N. C.; the Reverend J. E. Perkins, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, Apex, N. C.; and Mrs. Elizabeth Cofield, County Commissioner.

NORTH CAROLINA TO HOST YOUTH SEMINAR . . .

The Youth Seminar of the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Missionary Convention will once again be held in North Carolina on the campus of Shaw University in Raleigh. Last year was the first year that the seminar had been held in this state in recent years, and last year's seminar was one of the best, says some of the young people, in several years. At the seminar a report was taken to see if the young people there wanted to come back to North Carolina or return to Virginia. Over half of them wanted to stay. At the annual convention which was held in Pittsburgh, Pa., last year, the Youth Department asked to come back to this state.

North Carolina was one of the larger states represented at last year's seminar and as Vice-President of the Youth Department, I want to thank all of you who sent your young people to Raleigh for a week of Christian experience — to meet people from other places and to learn what was happening around them; to find out what other Youth Departments were doing, not only in this state but in all states that came together to make the seminar what it was.

Beginning on Sunday, June 23, 1974 the doors of Shaw University will be opened after 3:00 P. M. for the 20th Annual Christian Youth Seminar. Once again I am asking as Vice-President to send those young people that want to come, not just so our state will have the largest attendance, but for your youth to meet and learn with young people of different states. Although the Youth Department meets at the annual convention, many young people cannot attend because of schools re-opening. This is why the seminar is held in June to give those young people an opportunity to still be a part of the Lott Carey Convention. As one writer has said, "How good it is for brethren to dwell together." So Senior and Youth Missionaries, get it together and let the young people have a good time in the Lord starting June 23.

If more information is need, please write or call me:

HOWARD PARKER, JR.
867 CRAWFORD STREET
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA
HOME NO. 722-7403 OFFICE NO. 772-1141

Woman's Page----

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR THE 90TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA

JULY 29-AUGUST 2, 1974

TO BE HELD AT THE
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH —
DR. DAVID R. HEDGLEY, PASTOR
HIGHLAND AVENUE AND 7TH STREET —
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. 27101

Headquarters: THE HILTON INN, (Marshall and
High Streets)

ROOM RATES PER NIGHT (Tax Included)

Singles (1 Person—1 double bed) \$15.60

Singles (2 People—1 double bed) 18.54

Doubles (2 People—2 double beds) 20.80

\$3.00 per night for each additional person

3.00 per night for each roll-a-way bed

Note: For hotel accommodation send 1st night
deposit to your Woman's Convention. Make
check or Money Order payable to:

WOMAN'S BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION

Winston-Salem State University Campus Rates
(62 Rooms Available)

Twins (2 people—2 beds)—\$2.50 per day per
person

Bed linen will be furnished by the University
Bring your own towel and face cloth.

Home Rates:

2 people in a room—\$2.50 each per night

1 person in a room—\$5.00 per night

Note: Reservation for Winston-Salem University
and homes please write:

Dr. David R. Hedgley
First Baptist Church
Highland Avenue and 7th Street, East
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

Note: July 12, 1974 is the deadline for receiving
reservations for hotel, University and
homes.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW!

THE 5TH ANNUAL STATE- WIDE LEADERS' WORKSHOP

BAPTIST LEADERS "TALK THINGS OVER"

By Mrs. Thelma C. Horton, Chairman
of Public Relations

The Senior, Young Adult and Youth Departments of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina assembled at Shaw University, Raleigh, Saturday, April 6, emphasizing the Theme: "Togetherness" (Let's Talk It Over). The workshop was sponsored by the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, Mrs. J. B. McLester, Durham, President and Mrs. Berthenia D. Horne, Raleigh and Winston-Salem, Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

The workshop was designed to create a better working relationship in the Christian Community, thus enabling every individual to become a more effective witness for Christ.

With emphasis upon the word "Togetherness," Mrs. Horne challenged the group with the following statement. "The difference between a good organization and a poor one, an effective department and an inefficient one, is often reflected in the cooperation, or lack of it, among the members. When people help each other, freely and voluntarily, there is a spirit of team work that makes a better department or organization really go—it is a pleasure to be a member. When there is no cooperation—no spirit of the Helping hand freely given—there is unpleasantness and members do not attend meetings. Mountain climbers always help each other. LET US CLIMB OUR MOUNTAINS TOGETHER."

Following a most uplifting devotion, The What, Why, and How of the Missionary Circle was presented by Mrs. Roxanna Pitts, Winston-Salem; The Missionary Union, Mrs. Ethel Clements, Henderson; The Special Worker, Mrs. Lucy Gray, Tarboro; The District Conferences, Miss Cornelia Fennell, Willard; The Year-Round Committees, Mrs. Amaza Davis, Ahoskie; The Auxiliary, Mrs. J. A. Little, Monroe. These dedicated women inspired hearts, stimulated minds and encouraged the leaders to work together. Some excerpts from their discussion are: 1) Togetherness requires the right kind of personality. 2) One must work to develop Togetherness. 3) Togetherness is strength, Togetherness is a winner. 4) Unity and understand-

ing are necessary for Togetherness. 5) Togetherness is a must, if one is to extend the Lord one's best.

The Young Adult Department met with Mrs. Luella D. Edwards and Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, Director and Associate Director, respectively. They discussed old methods of Young Adult Meetings and recruitment in the departments, Circles, Unions and Auxiliaries. They also tried to find more effective ways of becoming involved. Among the many problems discussed were program planning, involvement of the 21-26 year-olds and the place of young men in the department. The Y. A. President, Miss Natilie Williams, Reidsville, report depicted a spirit of "Togetherness" in the department.

President McLester delivered a most thought-provoking "Wrap-Up Message." She stated that the greatest room for improvement is the room of opportunity. Our Woman's Convention offers that opportunity, she continued. Using the words of Dr. Frank Leawell, she stated that "Leadership has superior knowledge, but is so skilled in the technique of imparting it, that, like gravitation, silently the power is felt, but the source of the power is unseen." As top leadership, she con-

tinued, you have been called to review your commitment to the Purpose, the Platform and the Objectives of the Woman's Convention. You must have it "together" before you can impart it to others. In her closing words, she reminded the participants that concern for the entire convention program must be built into plans for implementation. One must be dedicated enough to cultivate the attitude to learn of HIM, and learn the Convention Program. The TWO must GO TOGETHER!

The following words by an anonymous writer and read by Mrs. Amaza Davis during her Workshop Presentation, expresses the feeling of "Togetherness" many of the workshop participants experienced at the close of a most rewarding learning and training session.

Together

"These seven togethers are seven links of a chain, which bind us indissolubly to Christ: Crucified together; Quickened together; Raised together; Seated together in heavenly places; Suffers together; Heirs together; and Glorified together with Christ. They indicate the ever lasting purpose of God in our redemption and His plan in effecting that purpose."



INSTRUCTORS, PROMOTERS AND CLASSES OF THE FORSYTH COUNTY TRAINING INSTITUTE

L-R: Dr. J. Ray Butler—Ushers; Mrs. Mary B. Brice—Youth; Mrs. Dorothy H. Blount—Leaders of Youth; Dr. David R. Hedgley—Deacons; Mrs. M. A. Horne—Institute Director; Mrs. Mable Hester—Senior Mission; Miss Jerrye Griffin—Young Adults; Dr. Kelly O. P. Goodwin—Sunday School.

Promoters 2nd Row L-R: Mrs. Clara N. Hayes, President, Forsyth Senior Union; Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, Director, Y. A. Union; Mr. Thomas Jackson, President, Sunday School Union; Mrs. Erma Frazier, Supervisor, Youth Union; Mr. H. W. Gwyn, President, Deacons' Union; Mr. M. J. Murray, President, Ushers' Union.

The 21st Annual Forsyth County Training Institute was held at the Shiloh Baptist Church, Dr. J. Ray Butler pastor, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, March 25-19, 1974. The week's study centered around the theme—

“Learning — Living — Leading”

(The Work of the Church)

The instructors were at their best with increased class attendance each night. The students were eager to know the work of the Church and Church work.

The theme speakers were the Reverend B. F. Daniels, dean of Forsyth Missionary Fellowship and pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington and Dr. Jerry Drayton, pastor, New Bethel Baptist Church. The ministers were well prepared for the occasion receiving amens and hallelujahs.

The institute enrollment of 359 with an average attendance of 276 nightly. The Youth class taught by Mrs. Mary Brice won the banner for the highest average attendance.

The institute closed on a high note on LEARNING—LIVING—LEADING.

NEWS ACROSS THE STATE

Shaw Divinity School Sponsors First Annual Pastor's Conference

The Shaw Divinity School sponsored its First Annual Pastor's Conference at Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, March 18-20, 1974.

The theme of the conference was, “What's Happening Now: In Christian Theology? In Church Administration? In Shepharding The Flock?” Dr. J. Deotios Roberts, Dean, School of Theology, Virginia Union University, Richmond, Virginia, delivered two lectures in Christian Theology entitled, “Current Trends in Christian Theology;” Dr. K. O. P. Goodwin, Pastor, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, delivered two lectures in Church Administration entitled, “Managing the Modern Church;” Dr. William A. Jones, Pastor, Bethany Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York, delivered two lectures on Shepharding the Flock entitled, “Pastoral Care of the Modern Flock.” Dr. Jones was also conference preacher. Devotions were conducted by the Reverend J. Don-

ald Ballard, Pastor, United Metropolitan Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina and Dr. Talmadge Watkins, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.

Music was furnished by the Raleigh Interdenominational Male Chorus and the United Heritage Gospel Chorus of Shaw University.

The Pastor's Conference Committee that designed and promoted the conference is comprised of the Reverend J. C. Harris, Chairman; Dr. J. B. Humphrey, vice-chairman; Dr. W. B. Lewis, secretary; the Reverend J. H. Foster, assistant secretary; Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, and the Reverends C. C. Craig, John T. Parks, Jr., W. B. Westbrook, Isaac Horton, James Arnette, C. R. Mosley, and J. L. Morgan. Dr. J. Archie Hargraves, President of Shaw University and Shaw Divinity School and Dr. E. B. Turner, Chairman, The Shaw Divinity School Board of Trustees are ex-officio members of the committee. The Reverend James Z. Alexander, Dean, The Shaw Divinity School, is co-ordinator.



Pictured above are the pastors attending the Shaw Divinity School's First Annual Pastor's Conference at Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., March 18-20, 1974.

NEWS ACROSS THE STATE

TRIBUTE TO OUR BELOVED MODERATOR THE REVEREND J. C. ROWE

By: L. R. Bowman

The Reverend J. C. Rowe was born and raised in the brushy mountains of Alexander County. His formal education was limited; although his foresight and spiritual knowledge was that of Salem.

"Reverend J. C.," as he was known by many, served the Yadkin Valley Missionary Baptist Association for 19 years. We feel privileged to have had such a man to lead and work with us.

He served faithfully as Vice-Moderator under a great man, Reverend J. A. Parson, known as the "Bushy Mountain Plow Boy." For a number of years, Reverend J. C. came up through the ranks of the church, holding every major office of the church.

Reverend J. C. lived the life he preached. He had a heartfelt of love for everyone. He has devoted to the youth, encouraged and had patience for the old.

The people of the churches and communities of Iredell, Wilkes, Alexander and Surry counties, where Reverend Rowe pastored for so long, joins with Sister Rowe and family in the lost of this our beloved brother.



MINI CONGRESS

National Officers, State Officials and Local Pastors: (front row L-R) Rev. W. A. Rorie, Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. R. N. Lockhart, Charlotte, N. C.; Dr. W. L. Wilson, Spartanburg, S. C.; Dr. C. A. W. Clark, Dallas, Texas; Dr. Robert Taylor, Richmond, Va.; Dr. C. R. Edwards, Fayetteville, N. C.; and Rev. B. M. McKenzie, Charlotte, N. C.

(2nd Row) Rev. C. W. Kerry, Charlotte, N. C.; Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Raleigh, N. C.; Dr. E. J. Perry, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Dr. Charles Dinkins, Memphis, Tenn.; Dr. E. A. Freeman, Kansas City, Kansas; Mr. S. E. Grinstead, Nashville, Tenn.

(3rd Row) Dr. T. O. Chappell, Tulsa, Okla.; Reverend C. C. Craig, Raleigh, N. C.; Dr. M. P. Turner, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. W. T. Crutcher, Knoxville, Tenn.; Mr. William Washington, Nashville, Tenn.

(4th Row) Rev. R. M. Young, Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. C. B. Dewberry, Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. N. E. Kerry, Charlotte, N. C.; Mrs. Grace Cobb, Detroit, Mich.; T. O. Chappell, Tulsa, Okla.; Rev. J. M. Kennedy, Charlotte, N. C.; Dr. R. E. Penn, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. J. A. White, Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. C. R. Mosley, Belmont, N. C.

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 14—Moderator's Clinic, Shiloh, Henderson

May 15—One Day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Shiloh, Henderson

June 17-21—National Baptist S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, U. S. A., Inc., Detroit, Mich.

June 17-21—National Baptist S. S. Congress of America

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

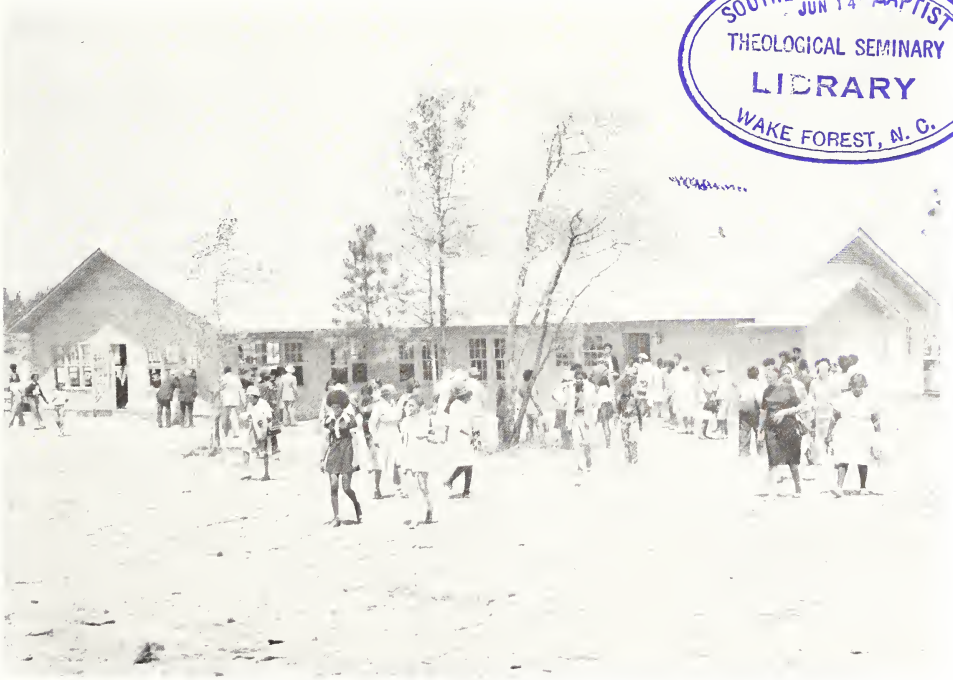
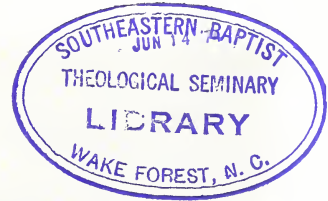
VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JUNE, 1974

NUMBER 6

The J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly

(See Story on Page 4)



THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to *Baptist Informer*, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

MODERATORS' CLINIC AND ONE DAY SESSION

"GREATEST EVER"

General Baptists made a tremendous impact as they met May 14 and 15 in the Shiloh Baptist Church, Henderson, the Reverend R. W. Perry, Pastor.

On Tuesday, May 14, the Moderators' Workshop was held under the leadership of H. D. Cooper, Secretary of Laymen's Work of General Baptist State Convention; Leo Williams, Director of Christian of General Baptist State Convention; Mrs. C. E. McLester, President of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention; C. C. Craig, Assistant to the Executive Secretary; J. Z. Alexander, Dean, School of Religion, Shaw University and O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary, General Baptist State Convention. The theme on "The Challenge of the Unfinished Task in Kingdom Building" was widely explored. Moderators Arthur Williams, T. A. Watkins, C. R. Mosley and S. W. Edwards were among the panelist developing the topic: "The Larger Christian Stewardship."

The day was climaxed with a moving sermon delivered by the Reverend J. H. Ferguson, Moderator, Pee Dee Association on the subject: "Finding Inner Peace In Our Sick World." The Reverend J. M. Kennedy, Past Moderator of Moderators, was on the scene and spoke to the group.

President C. R. Edwards, presiding with his usual repose, opened the One Day Session on May 15 at 10:00 A.M.

Some highlights of the meeting were: dynamic sermons by J. W. White; timely reports and greetings from Mrs. J. B. McLester, O. L. Sherrill, Leo Williams, J. W. Martin, Arthur Williams, Frank Marshall, Clifton Stone, George Dudley, H. D. Cooper, J. Archie Hargraves, W. C. Somer-

ville and H. V. Bryant; and inspiring devotions conducted by I. Milledge, P. J. Woods, C. E. Gray and L. A. Melvin.

If you were fortunate enough to attend, you can truly say that "it was the greatest."

The total receipts for this meeting was \$49,302.40.

NATIONAL CONGRESS MONTH

The National Sunday School and B. T. U. Congress, Dr. E. A. Freeman, President, will convene the week of June 17-21 in Detroit, Michigan.

The Progressive National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Dr. S. H. James, President, will meet the week of June 17-21 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in the Sheraton Motor Hotel.

MEMORIALS

The Reverend T. V. Foster of Rocky Mount departed this life April 18, 1974. He was pastor of the Batts Chapel Baptist Church; Pastor Emeritus, Little Hope Baptist Church; Moderator Emeritus of the Neuse River Baptist Association and the Tar River Ministers and Deacons Union. Funeral services were held from the Little Hope Baptist Church, Rocky Mount with the Reverend J. R. Person, Moderator of the Old Eastern Association, presiding and the Reverend McKinley Nicholson delivering the Eulogy.

The Reverend J. C. Brewer, pastor of the Faith Memorial Baptist Church, Charlotte, passed away on May 5, 1974. Funeral services were conducted on May 11, 1974 with Dr. J. Arthur White delivering the Eulogy.

THREE STATE MEN RECEIVED HONORARY DEGREE

CORBIN L. COOPER — "Advocate of Christian Education"

OTIS L. HAIRSTON — "Social Ethicist, Social Analyst, and Social Engineer"

CALVIN C. CRAIG — "Bringing insight and Guidance to Church and Denominational Groups as They Have Come to Grips With The Issue of Advancing Christian Education"



Three outstanding religious leaders, Corbin Cooper, Otis Hairston, and Calvin Craig, received honorary degrees from Shaw University at its Commencement May 12.

Dr. Cooper is the Director of the Department of Cooperative Ministries of the Baptist State Convention. His main objective as head of this Department has been to establish, strengthen and promote cooperative efforts among the members of the two state Baptist groups (Baptist State Convention and the General Baptist Convention). In addition, personnel and resources materials are made available for teaching and training programs in Baptist churches.

Dr. Craig is the Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the General Baptist Convention. He received his A.B. and B.D. Degrees from Shaw

University and the Shaw Divinity School, and a diploma in clinical pastoral training at the School of Pastoral Care, North Carolina Baptist Hospital and the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Winston-Salem. He has also pastored several churches in Ansonville, Hamlet and Piney Grove. On the national level, he is a teacher of Baptist Doctrines in the National Baptist Training Union Congress of the National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Dr. Hairston is the Pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro. He also served as Director of Publicity at Shaw, Editor of the **Baptist Informer**, a member of the Greensboro Chambers of Commerce, member of the Board of Directors of United Day Care Services and Executive Board member of the North Carolina Council of Churches. He was recently presented the 1974 Peacemaker Award for outstanding contributions to the cause of peace and racial understanding.

STATEMENT:

Most unusual and fascinating about the whole occasion was seeing the Executive Secretary, Dr. O. L. Sherrill, proudly hood his Assistant, C. C. Craig.

REVEREND HAIRSTON PEACEMAKER AWARD WINNER

The Reverend Otis L. Hairston, pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, was named the recipient of the second annual Peacemaker award. Reverend Hairston was selected on the basis of his undying efforts to aid the community in whatever manner called for.

Those on the committee to select this year's award winner were: Rep. Henry Frye, Rabbi Arnold Task, Reverend Cecil Bishop and Hal Sieber. Reverend Hairston is Vice-President of the Greensboro Ministers Fellowship, member of the Greensboro Board of Education and member of the Board of Trustees of Hope Harbor. He is a member of the Executive Committee of both the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and the Greensboro branch of the NAACP. He also holds positions on advisory committees of Shaw University and the American Federal Savings and Loan Association.

During the 1963 demonstrations, Reverend Hairston was the spokesman for the co-ordinating Civil Rights Committees and in 1967 he organized the Citizens Emergency Committee.

As a record of how busy Reverend Hairston is, he preached 57 sermons at Shiloh last year. Also

(Continued on Page 7)

Woman's Page----

THE J. J. JOHNSON BAPTIST ASSEMBLY DEDICATED

"A VISION, BY FAITH, A REALITY"

By Thelma C. Horton, Chairman Public
Relations Woman's Baptist State Convention

The meeting place, which was envisioned by Dr. and Mrs. J. J. Johnson of Fairmont and their daughter, Deborah, became a reality on Saturday, April 27, 1974 at 11:00 A.M. The Baptist Family of North Carolina gathered in Laurel Hill, to dedicate the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly for the purpose of worship, fellowship, study, research and example of democratic living and service. More than 1,500 men, women and youth were present from all sections of the state. They came by cars, church buses and chartered buses. Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, presided.

It was during the Centennial Celebration of the General Baptist State Convention, which convened at Raleigh in August, 1967, that the Johnsons presented to the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina (auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention, Inc.) a deed describing fifty (50) acres of land donated by them for Religious purposes. The plot of land, located in Scotland County, is seven (7) miles northwest of Laurinburg and four (4) miles northeast of Laurel Hill.

The General Baptist Convention, appreciative of the gracious gift and challenged by the possibilities it offered, acted swiftly to guarantee the women of its constituency the full support of the Baptist Family as they spearheaded the new endeavor. The women decided to use the land for a Camp and Baptist Assembly. The trustees of the convention were alerted, a Building Committee was appointed, and a camp expert was secured. Thus, the vision of the J. J. Johnson Family in the hands of the faithful women of North Carolina began to take shape toward becoming a reality. Under the guidance of the leaders selected, twelve (12) additional acres of land were purchased, plans for the outlay of buildings and grounds were adopted, and the step by step procedure was enacted.

A Guest Lodge, providing accommodations for eighteen adults, was the first building erected. Upon its completion, the building program continued and has made possible the following:

A Dormitory with a capacity for eighty (80) campers and eight (8) counselors; a Dining Hall and Kitchen; a Swimming Pool; two Mobile Homes; a Recreation Area; a Parking Lot and adequate Roads.

In 1973, the Convention appointed a Board of Directors to expedite the work and programs of the Assembly. This Board, which is chaired by Mrs. J. B. McLester, embraces all departments of the Convention and all sections of the State.

The Hymn of Dedication, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" helped to prepare the assembly for a real experience. Mrs. Jettie M. Lucas of Shelby, pianist. Following the Invocation by Dr. A. J. Ryans, pastor, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Charlotte, Mrs. J. B. McLester, president of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, led the Litany of Dedication. Dr. Talmadge A. Watkins, pastor, First Baptist Church, Wilson, gave the History of the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. Mrs. Horne presented Dr. J. J. Johnson and the Camp Expert, Mr. William Johnson, who gave some encouraging and challenging remarks.

Dr. C. R. Edwards, president of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., and pastor, First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, greeted the assembly by saying, "This dedication, today, represents hard work, sacrifice, faith and probably, more than anything else, determined leadership. This achievement, he continued, has not come easy. For those of us who pioneer and blaze new trails, must expect opposition, difficulty, and pain. It was Fredrick Douglas who said, If there is no struggle, there is no progress." Those who profess to favor freedom, yet appreciate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thundering and lightning. This struggle may be a moral or maybe a physical one, but there must be a struggle, he continued. After President Edwards expressed his appreciation to the Johnson Family, he urged the assembly to work together to make the assembly work for them as they continue to serve God. The challenged the group to complete the job and see that it is used in the name of God for the purpose intended. This will strengthen the entire Baptist Family."

Miss Audrey Kee, president of the Youth Missionary Department, praised the Lord and challenged the Baptist Family to fulfill the mission and make the Assembly what it ought to be.

Hearts were lifted and encouraged as Miss Kathryn Bullard, Baptist Women's Director,

Women's Missionary Union of North Carolina, commended the Woman's Convention for the giant step they have taken in building the Assembly, so conducive to many Christian Programs. She presented a check in the amount of \$500.00 to the Woman's Convention, to be used in the 1974 Camp Program. Mrs. Horne accepted the gift and told the assembly that the WMU had given \$500.00, annually since 1953, totalling \$11,500.00, to help underprivileged children to attend camp.



Dr. David Hedgley

The Dedication Message was delivered by Dr. David R. Hedgley, pastor, First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem. He was presented by Dr. Charles Ward, pastor, First Baptist Church, Raleigh, as a "man who is short in stature, but looks down on many men." Dr. Hedgley's message was informative, stimulating and filled with the Spirit of God. The congregation responded with shouts of "Amen," "Praise God" and "Hallelujah." From Psalm 66:16, he read, "Come and Hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what the Lord has done for my soul." This is the invitation that has brought all of us here from all parts of North Carolina. This occasion reminded him of the word of the hymn "I Love To Tell The Story." That story we have come to tell today, he continued, is the old story of what God has done for us. We are here because we love the Lord. He gave several reasons why we should tell the old, old story: (1) It is a powerful story that reaches across the century with meaning, worth and fascination within itself; (2) It is more important than any discovery that has been made in any time in history; (3) It is a story of adventure in the realm of the Spirit, a story of what has happened to those of us who have had a personal contact with God, through Jesus Christ;

(4) We have been commanded to go tell the story and make disciples of men; and (5) The inner fire that is characteristic of all who have vital knowledge of God. He reaffirmed the hope and the faith of many when he said, "God is as accessible to us today, as he was to the saints of old. All we have to do is to call upon Him, God will hear prayer and God will answer prayer. As he came to the close of his message, he stated that we proclaim what God has done for us by what we are and by our human nature. When we have been touched by God, he continued, we can no longer hide it. The natural personality of those who have been redeemed is to proclaim the old, old story of what the Lord has done for us. We have come today, he concluded to declare to the Baptist Assembly "What God has done for us." He challenged the Baptist Family of North Carolina to accept the invitation that was given centuries ago through Jesus Christ and declare "WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE FOR US."

Following the Prayer of Dedication by Dr. E. Burns Turner, pastor, First Baptist Church, Lumberton, Mrs. Willie M. Williams, Mezzo Soprano, Raleigh, sang "Bless This House." She is the wife of Reverend Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education, General Baptist State Convention.

Mrs. Horne made every heart rejoice when she stated that "THE BAPTIST ASSEMBLY IS DEBT FREE, thus far."

I pray that every North Carolina Baptist will be able to say, without reservation, these words, which were read in unison during The Litany of Dedication:

We dedicate ourselves anew to that service of our fellowmen, wherein can best be performed our true service of God in obedience to the Master, when he said, "Thou shall love the Lord... with all my heart... and thy neighbor as thyself. The Lord's Name be Praised! Thus the vision of 1967, by FAITH, became a reality in 1974.

Dates To Remember

June 17-21—Progressive Congress of Christian Education, Philadelphia, Pa.

July 16-18—Ushers' Convention, Mt. Vernon, Durham

July 29-Aug. 2—Woman's Convention, First, Winston-Salem

Aug. 6-8—State S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, First, Fayetteville

Aug. 26-30—Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Shiloh, Greensboro, N. C.

SHAW AWARDED \$402,710 GRANT TO ESTABLISH SEMINARY WITHOUT WALLS

Shaw University president J. Archie Hargraves announced that the institution has received a \$258,490 grant from Lilly Endowment, Incorporated. The amount received represents the first payment of a three-year grant commitment of \$402,710 for the establishment of a "Seminary Without Walls."

The concept of the SWW program has been in the formative stages for approximately ten years. According to C. T. Vivian, SWW program director, preliminary plans were formulated in consultation with the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others of his associates who recognized the need for this type of training as a result of their experience in various communities during the Civil Rights movement of the sixties. Vivian further stated that Lilly Endowment officials were impressed by the proposal because the SWW program offers a great potential to develop the creative leadership approach to increasing the effectiveness of religious leaders and in the development of expanding frontiers in ministerial training.

The program, which is to be coordinated with the assistance of Shaw's University Without Walls Program and the Shaw Divinity School, is designed to take men and women of high potential and commitment from wherever they are in academic achievement and preparation and train them to affirm their personal and racial identity while dealing with the real problems and concerns of the Black community and the spiritual future of America.

Initially, SWW centers will be operated in 10 cities. However, the number of centers may be increased according to the need for such services and the capability of the program to provide effective programs in these expanded areas.

"The target for this year in the 10 cities will be those ministers with a college education or two years of college. They can immediately become a candidate for the Master of Divinity degree and will be able, through intensive study, to go from candidacy to graduation," Reverend Vivian said. "The SWW candidate who registers will be given a five point support system to assure him that he can start where he is educationally, not leave the pulpit, job or other community involvements and work at his own pace toward an honorable degree."

"Anyone with two years of college can in a short period of time gain the equivalent of

a Bachelor in Religion degree and thereby be fully involved in a Master of Divinity program. SWW will give credit for life experiences," he added.

Basic to the support system will be semester hours of work on tape recordings by some of the best men in their field. This tape material will be supported by a host of adjunct professors who will personally lead and guide the candidate toward his goal. Among the nationally known educators and ministers who will provide the taped courses of instruction are: Dr. James H. Cone, professor of Systematic Theology, Union Theological Seminary, New York (Black Theology); Dr. Charles Long, president of American Academy of Religion (African Religions); Dr. Gardner Taylor, pastor of Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York (Homiletics); and Dr. Gayraud Wilmore, Jr., author and professor of Social Ethics, Boston University (Black Church History).

Some of the objectives of the SWW program include educating ministers for this period of rapid social, cultural and theological change; allowing a greater number of trained persons to enter the ministry; making it possible for practicing ministers in many places of the country to place their study, experience, and training in a theoretical and curriculum framework; training religious leaders in the methods and techniques necessary to cope with complex systems and institutions; and providing and testing out new methods of delivering educational content.

In order to register or to secure additional information, simply write to Reverend C. T. Vivian, Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina.

BAPTIST METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES

By Leon C. Riddick

The Baptist Metropolitan Ministries of Charlotte is an association of black and white churches that was organized three years ago in order to do inner city mission. The association is composed of fourteen churches and have provided an opportunity for members of the respective congregations to engage in creative and helpful encounters that have dispelled some myths of the past, and enable black and white to work together side by side in many mission projects.

Twice a year the association gives a fellowship dinner that is attended by more than two hundred people. In the spring, this dinner is followed by home visits. Many black and white families open their homes and invite an equal number of

black and white couples to come in, enjoy light refreshments, and discuss many of the problems and opportunities of the community in an informal way.

In addition to the Home Fellowship, the association is engaged in the following ministries: worship and study, pulpit and choir exchanges, prison ministries, work with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Mental Health Association, provides volunteers for the schools, sponsors Camp Amigo, a summer day camp, sponsors picnics for multiple sclerosis patients, provides volunteers for local hospitals, after Red Cross orientation, volunteers for Charlotte Rehabilitation Hospital, and other agencies such as Big Brothers Association of Charlotte, Inc.

At the April 30th fellowship dinner held at Myers Park Baptist Church, a panel proved to be a welcome change from having a speaker. The panel was composed of the following persons: Dr. E. B. Hicks, Executive Secretary of the American Baptist Churches of the South, Reverend Corbin Cooper, Secretary of the Department of Cooperative Ministries of the Baptist State Convention of N. C., Dr. C. W. Williams, a Charlotte Physician, and Reverend C. O. Milford, Minister of the Park Road Baptist Church, Dr. Eugene Owens of Myers Park Baptist Church and Lester Strong, WBT-TV were the interrogators. There were voices heard from all over the audience of more than two hundred persons on varied matters, and everyone seemed to have gone home inspired and challenged.

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc., was present and gave the invocation.

Dr. Claude Broach of St. John Baptist Church, and Coleman W. Kerry, Jr. of Friendship Baptist serve as president and vice president respectively.

HAVE YOU NOTICED???



Have you noticed our team of bees buzzing busily about North Carolina? Of course, it's Dr. C. C. Craig, Assistant to the Executive Secretary; Reverend Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education; Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary; Dr. Corbin Cooper, Secretary of Co-operative Ministries; and Mr. H. D. Cooper, Layman worker (not shown on picture). They are holding workshops and Regional Meetings all over the state. Their visits have included: Mountain & Catawba Association, Statesville; Zion Association, Wadesboro; New Bern Eastern, Trent River-Oakey Grove and East Carolina Progressive, New Bern; Union Association, Hope Mills; West Roanoke and Northampton County Associations, Ahoskie; Old Eastern, Greenville; Middle Ground Union, Gold Point; Wake Association, Rolesville; Rowan Association, High Point; Cedar Grove Association, Yanceyville; Pee Dee Association, Rockingham, R.F.D.; Neuse River, Tar River and Progressive Tar River, Rocky Mount, Wilson Association, Wilson and Yadkin Philadelphia Association, Ansonville.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Peacemaker Award Winner

(Continued from Page 3)

included in his totals for last year are 209 visits to hospitals and nursing homes, two visits to prisons, 17 addresses and sermons elsewhere and 16 state and national conferences and meetings attended.

Before going to Shiloh and succeeding his father, who pastored Shiloh for 53 years, Rev. Hairston pastored in Henderson, N. C. Immediately before returning to Greensboro (he was born and raised here) he was the Editor of the BAPTIST INFORMER.

NEW PASTOR APPOINTED

St. Stephen Baptist Church
Tarboro, N. C.

The members of St. Stephen Baptist Church, Tarboro, North Carolina have been wonderfully blessed to have secured The Reverend W. O. Merriett of Zebulon, N. C. as Pastor and Leader. Although the body is small, there is much love and unity existing in the midst with Rev. and Mrs. Merriett being added to the Church Family.

The church has experienced tremendous growth since he was accepted as Pastor, approximately one year prior to a most inspiring Installation Service held at the church on Sunday, February 10, 1974 at 3:00 P.M. The Rev. L. J. Morris and Choir of the Eastern Star Baptist Church were guest for the evening, and the Pastor was presented with keys to the church and many other gifts. Following the service, a delicious fellowship dinner was served at the Teen Center on the corner Wilson and Panola streets. The center was decorated with all tables covered with white linen cloths and a special table for the Honored Pastor and Guest, centered with a beautifully decorated cake bearing the Pastor's name. This service will always be remembered and is written down in the History of our church.

The Members say that since Rev. Merriett has been with them for a little more than one year, much progress is being made and they have completed a remodeling job very near the amount of \$8,000.00 (Eight Thousand Dollars), and there is much more to be done and with God as their Father and Rev. Merriett their Leader, they will someday reach their goal.

Revival Services will begin here on Sunday, April 21, 1974 at 7 P.M. and will continue through Friday, April 26th. Rev. T. R. Vines and Choir will open the services on Sunday. Rev. J. H. Williams will be Guest Evangelist for the week's meeting. He is Pastor of the Greater White Rock Baptist Church, Phila., Pa. Everyone is invited to come and help to make this one of the best revivals.

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE FOR CHARTER PLANE!

Requests for reservations are being made regularly by those who wish to attend the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., in September on the charter plane. However, unless more requests are made at once, some of the rooms and plane seats will be released. Therefore, those who wish to go by plane should make their reservations immediately.

COST: Unless an increase in cost of fuel is made, the price should remain at \$175. This package price includes:

Transfers roundtrip between the airport and hotel

Porterage at the airport

Baggage in and out of the hotel

A Deluxe Buffalo-Niagara Falls Tour

4 nights accommodations (two in room)

RESERVATIONS: There are only 95 seats on each plane and they will be assigned on a first come basis. Reservations should be made immediately by sending a deposit of \$25.00 per person. The balance will be due anytime between now and July 1, 1974.

Please clip on this line

RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____
Street or Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____ Roommate _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____. I will depart from (check one):

Raleigh-Durham Airport _____

Charlotte Airport _____

Telephone _____

Make reservation check in the amount of \$25.00 for each person payable to: General Baptist Plane, and mail to:

General Baptist Plane
P. O. Box 6172
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

**Subscribe Now
to the
BAPTIST INFORMER**



The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, JULY, 1974

NUMBER 7



MRS. C. E. McLESTER
President

HIGHLIGHTS
OF THE
90th ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND
FOREIGN MISSIONARY
CONVENTION OF N. C.

JULY 29 - AUGUST 2

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.

DR. DAVID R. HEDGLEY, Minister

Theme: "His Message—Our Hope"

St. Luke 4:16-20



MRS. M. A. HORNE
Executive Secretary-Treasurer



DR. JERRY DRAYTON
Banquet Speaker



DR. J. ROBERT BRADLEY
Guest Songleader



MISS NATALIE MITCHELL
Young Adult President

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to *Baptist Informer*, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

By: Dr. L. C. Riddick, Pastor
Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Charlotte, N. C.

PRAY FOR THE PRESIDENT?

There is much talk these days in the midst of our National Crises and the personal problems of the President of the United States that we "pray for the President." However, I wonder if we, the citizens of this country, are not the ones who are "Standing in the need of prayer."

Long before Richard Nixon came to office we had reached the point where our moral concepts were at a very low ebb. Hardly anything is wrong any more if one does not get caught. We had turned our backs on old fashion decency for the "New Morality" and "Situation Ethics." We had heard the honored leaders of the Congress of the United States implore their many constituents to disobey the law of the land, or circumvent it any way they could. We saw the cry for "law and order" become a substitute for "keeping Blacks in their place" and big money from big corporations dictate the policies of government from back wood municipalities to the White House.

We hear, even now, that the churches and Christian people should not become involved in the political process, and so we have inadvertently turned over the formulation of laws and the administration of government to those whose only concern is their own enrichment and political enhancement. We have failed to register on one hand and didn't vote after registering on the other. Many of our local churches have become

spiritual message parlors where the faithful gather on Sunday for a quickie pep talk that will make them feel better and they go out to do nothing for the Lord the next week.

Sin is not a nice word to use any more in our pulpits, and many people come seeking, as someone has said: "some good advice, on how to be naughty and still be nice."

Dr. Karl Menninger, MD. has said in his recent book "Whatever became of Sin? that: "—on October 23rd, 1972 Time dedicated its cover page and its book story to the "National Disgrace" of spending some \$400,000,000 to elect one of two leaders. But in none of the text, which excoriates the practice, does the word "Sin" occur. It is evil, disgraceful, corrupt, prejudicial, harmful, but evidently—it is not sinful." Fifty-five per cent of the American people approved the bombing of Vietnam, destroying their homes, families, churches, schools, land, trees and inflict a poverty and suffering on plain people who had done us no harm. O, but we wanted to save them from the communists. Also, this was done in behalf of self determination. Whose self determination? If this is what a Christian will do to a people—God help us.

Pray for the President?

Let us consider the words of the Lord as recorded in the book of Jeremiah 7:5-7: "—if you do not exploit the stranger, the orphan and the widow, if you do not shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not follow alien gods, to your own ruin, then here in this place I will stay with you, in the land that long ago I gave to your fathers forever."

The Jerusalem Bible

BENEFIT COMMISSION APPEAL

By C. C. Craig, Chairman

The General Baptist State Convention is fortunate to have a retirement plan for its ministers and full-time Christian workers. We are blessed to have reached a maturity stage in our Christian spiritual thinking where we are aware of the fact that we must work with God in providing for our pastors' adequate salaries, along with retirement, insurance, utilities, housing allowance, automobile and Convention expenses. These provisions are ideal provisions necessary for pastors.

The minister has a sacred responsibility to the church which calls him to serve as pastor.

According to Clyde Turner's book, "The New Testament Doctrine of the Church," the words **Elder, Bishop, and Pastor** are the three names for the same office.

"Elder," as the name indicates originally referred to the older men. But it came to be used in an official sense to designate those with experience and worthy of respect. The literal meaning of "bishop" is overseer, one who exercises oversight in the church. Pastor means shepherd. He is one to feed and care for the flock. That these three names refer to the same office is evident in Acts 20:17 which says that "and from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church." Speaking to the same men in verse 28, Paul says, "take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over which the Holy Spirit hath made you overseers, (bishop to feed) (act as shepherd or pastor the church of God)."

According to Clyde Turner's point of view, the duties of the pastor are implied in the name "bishop" who has the responsibility to exercise oversight in the church. The name "pastor" or "shepherd" indicates that he was to feed and care for the flock, as a preacher, teacher, leader and counselor. He was a sympathetic friend and a faithful servant to the church. As such he was to receive respect and honor from the church. "And we beseech you brethren to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake." (1 Thess. 5:17) The duties common to pastors of evangelical churches are the following:

1. The pastor is expected to preach, counsel, perform marriage ceremonies, visit the sick, conduct funerals, represent the church at meetings of the association, local, state, and national conventions, and make himself available for community projects.

2. His will be the responsibility for organizing the work of the church and keep the organization running smoothly. If the church has a staff, the pastor is required to assemble the personnel and direct the work.
3. It shall be his responsibility to see that matters voted on by the church are carried out.
4. All in all, the pastor is to lead the church to engage in a fellowship of worship, witness, education, ministry, and application.

Our Baptist churches across the state need to give more concern to our pastors who serve from a yearning and not because of an earning. The eternal truth is, every pastor and full-time Christian worker who give their life in Christian service for the church will one day reach old age or become disabled or will die in active service and in all probability will leave a family behind. The future responsibility of a pastor or full-time Christian worker can be lifted from the church in a retirement program. Therefore, churches of our Convention are urged to enroll their pastors in the Convention's retirement program as soon as possible.

Application forms for ministers' retirements may be secured from:

The Baptist Headquarters
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

The following pastors have been enrolled in the General Baptist Convention Retirement Plan by their churches:

Dr. C. R. Edwards, Church Secretary and Custodian
Rev. Luther Coppedge
Rev. L. D. Parker
Dr. D. R. Hedgley and Church Secretary
Dr. T. A. Watkins
Rev. Eugene C. Watson
Dr. N. M. Avery
Rev. J. B. Moore
Dr. J. Ray Butler
Dr. J. B. Humphrey

WHY NOT ENROLL YOUR PASTOR NOW?

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

Woman's Page----

HIGHLIGHTS

90TH ANNUAL SESSION
WOMAN'S BAPTIST HOME AND
FOREIGN MISSIONARY
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA
JULY 29 - AUGUST 2

Theme: "His Message—Our Hope"
St. Luke 4:14-16

Pre-Convention Banquet—The Hilton Inn
6:00 P.M.

Guest Songleader
and Soloist—Dr. J. Robert Bradley
Nashville, Tenn.

ANNUAL REPORT

Mrs. M. A. Horne
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

ADDRESSES:

Mrs. C. E. McLester, President WBH&FMC
Dr. J. Archie Hargraves, President Shaw
University
Miss Natalie Mitchell, Young Adult President
Miss Audrey Kee, Youth President

PREACHING AT ITS BEST:

The Reverend B. B. Felder, Greenville
The Reverend Preston Pendergrass, Charlotte
The Reverend C. R. Mosley, Belmont
The Reverend C. J. Cooper, Laurinburg

SYMPOSIUM:

"His Message—Our Hope"
Mrs. Shirley Bullock, Rocky Mount
Mrs. Eva H. Johnson, Salisbury
Mrs. Eva M. Minter, Dunn
The Reverend B. F. Daniels, Winston-Salem

MUSIC:

Dr. J. Robert Bradley
The First Baptist Church Choir,
Winston-Salem
Sycamore Hill Baptist Church Choir,
Greenville
The Mount Zion Baptist Church Choir,
Winston-Salem
The Shiloh Baptist Church Choir,
Winston-Salem

A LOOK AT:

The Missionary Helper—
Miss Bettie J. Chislom
The Baptist Informer—
The Reverend George W. Dudley

GREETINGS AND REMARKS:

Dr. C. R. Edwards
Dr. Wendell C. Somerville
Mr. H. V. Bryant

MISSION ACTIVITIES:

"The Miss Shaw Contest," Mrs. Eva M. Pratt,
Durham
"Have A Heart For Missions, Mrs. M. C.
Grier, Belmont

NEWS IN BRIEF.....

The Alexander Union Missionary Baptist Association of Alexander County held a missionary institute at Macedonia Baptist Church, Taylorsville, N. C., May 27-31. Dr. O. L. Sherrill was instructor for the men and Mrs. J. A. Little instructed the women. The total enrollment was 99.

* * * * *

The Craven County Missionary Circle Union celebrated its Third Anniversary at the Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Sunday, March 17 at 7:00 P.M. Mrs. M. A. Horne, Executive Secretary of the Woman's Convention was the guest speaker for the occasion.

* * * * *

Funeral services for the Reverend A. F. McCleave were held Monday, June 3 at the Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, Siler City, N. C., with Dr. O. L. Sherrill delivering the eulogy. Reverend McCleave was president of the Chatham County Branch of the N. A. A. C. P. and field secretary of the Deep River Association. He pastored several churches in North Carolina.

THE 1974 ANNUAL SESSION GENERAL BAPTIST STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND B. T. U. CONGRESS

By: Leo Williams, Jr., Director of the
Department of Christian Education

The 101st Annual Session of the State Sunday School Congress and the 74th Annual Session of the State Baptist Training Union Congress will be held with the First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Dr. C. R. Edwards, Pastor, August 6-8, 1974.

The Congress program includes eight classes: Ministers, Superintendents and Convention Presidents, Sunday School Teachers and Personnel, B. T. U. Directors and Convention Presidents, Vacation Bible School Workers, Young Adults, Youth (13-17), and Youth (9-12); seven workshops: Baptist Doctrines, the New Morality, Church Administration, the Role of the Pupil, the Institute, Church Finance, and the Unified Program; two special sermons: the Annual Sermon and the Closing Sermon; the James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest; a Memorial Service; Addresses; Greetings; Recreation and fellowship. The theme is "Biblical Images For Contemporary Culture."

We expect to have 1,000 Sunday Schools, 500 Baptist Training Unions and 50 District Conventions registered and accounted for at Baptist Headquarters. Our financial goal is \$25,000.00. Please plan now to be present and participate. This is a church affair, so let's work together and make this a "banner year" for the Cause of Christ.

Dates To Remember

July 16-18—Ushers' Convention, Mt. Vernon, Durham

July 29-Aug. 2—Woman's Convention, First, Winston-Salem

Aug. 6-8—State S. S. & B. T. U. Congress, First, Fayetteville

Aug. 26-30—Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Shiloh, Greensboro, N. C.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Buffalo, N. Y.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention of America, Nashville, Tenn.

Sept. 3-8—Progressive Baptist Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

Nov. 5-6—General Baptist State Convention & Laymen's League Convention, First, Raleigh

RESERVATIONS ARE DUE FOR CHARTER PLANE!

Requests for reservations are being made regularly by those who wish to attend the National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc., in September on the charter plane. However, unless more requests are made at once, some of the rooms and plane seats will be released. Therefore, those who wish to go by plane should make their reservations immediately.

COST: Unless an increase in cost of fuel is made, the price should remain at \$175. This package price includes:

Transfers roundtrip between the airport and hotel

Porterage at the airport

Baggage in and out of the hotel

A Deluxe Buffalo-Niagara Falls Tour

4 nights accommodations (two in room)

RESERVATIONS: There are only 95 seats on each plane and they will be assigned on a first come basis. Reservations should be made immediately by sending a deposit of \$25.00 per person. The balance will be due anytime between now and July 1, 1974.

Please clip on this line

RESERVATION FORM

Name _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____
Street or Box _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Church _____ Roommate _____

Amount Enclosed \$_____. I will depart from (check one):

Raleigh-Durham Airport _____

Charlotte Airport _____

Telephone _____

Make reservation check in the amount of \$25.00 for each person payable to: General Baptist Plane, and mail to:

General Baptist Plane
P. O. Box 6172
Raleigh, N. C. 27608

NEWS FROM

THE ROANOKE ASSOCIATION



Mitchell Elected Moderator

TYNER—The Roanoke Missionary Baptist Association, comprising 73 churches mostly in Northeastern North Carolina, held its 108th annual session with the Greater Welches Chapel Baptist Church of Tyner, May 21, 22 and 23, 1974. The Rev. W. H. Davis is the pastor. The theme for this session was, "The Challenge To The Church In A World Of Confusion And Disorder." The Rev. J. E. Trotman of High Point discussed the theme following devotions each morning.

The annual sermon was preached by Rev. Willie E. Riddick of Gatesville on Tuesday morning. Speakers for the afternoon and evening were H. D. Cooper, representing the laymen of the General Baptist Convention, Dr. Corbin L. Cooper, Director of Cooperative Ministries, Baptist State Convention, the Inspirational Sermon, Rev. Oliver Welch. At 7:30 p.m., Dr. W. B. Westbrook preached the Doctrinal Sermon.

Speakers for Wednesday were Mrs. Stella Bryant, President, Women's Educational and Missionary Union, Dr. J. R. R. McRay, Chairman of the Executive Board, I. F. Shannon, Chairman of the Trustee Board, W. H. Pattillo, Secretary of the Trustee Board and Rev. W. H. Trotman, Moderator, who gave his annual address. The Missionary Sermon was preached by Dr. J. J. Freeman as Dr. C. R. Edwards, President, General Baptist State Convention was not able to attend. Dr. J. Archie Hargraves, President of Shaw University, was the featured speaker Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. A Rally for Shaw Uni-

versity followed. Dr. W. B. Westbrook made a report on the School of Religion of Roanoke Institute. Other afternoon speakers were Dr. D. W. Lamb who delivered the Stewardship Sermon.

The Youth Hour, conducted by Mrs. Mary G. Williams, was well attended with many young people participating. Rev. W. H. Davis, host pastor, preached the Memorial Sermon at 7:30 o'clock.

Following the theme discussion on Thursday morning, the moderators of the three Union Meetings made reports. This was followed by an address by Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc. Dr. A. L. Hughes preached the Educational Sermon. The closing sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Law in the afternoon.

NEW OFFICERS

Dr. H. L. Mitchell of Gatesville was elected Moderator for the next three years. He has served as Financial Secretary, Recording Secretary and Vice-Moderator. Rev. W. H. Davis was elected Vice-Moderator. He has served as Treasurer of the Association for quite a number of years and is also Moderator of the Middle Ground Union Meeting. All other officers remain in their same positions for the next year.

APPRECIATION SERVICE PLANNED

The incoming Moderator recommended that an appreciation service be held honoring Dr. J. R. R. McRay and Rev. W. H. Trotman, past moderators, and Dr. J. Jasper Freeman, who has taught at Roanoke Institute for 16 years. A committee was named to plan for this service.

The next annual session of the Association will be held with the Providence Baptist Church of Edenton, May 20-22, 1975. Dr. W. C. Butts, Pastor.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

NEWS FROM

SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

Greensboro, North Carolina



Dr. J. Ray Butler, Pastor

The Shiloh Baptist Church as a Spiritual Beacon Light and an Organized Institution, has been guided by the Divine Hand of Providential power and protection in a special manner since the 1970 year under the present administration. A new door of happy experience has been opened to the Christians in Shiloh by sharing in cheerful religious giving. A man is blessed abundantly when he reaches out to exercise a lift to others. The Fourth Anniversary of Pastor Butler, The Dedication and Open-House of Shiloh's \$250,000.00 New Annex and Renovated Church Facilities were held on Sunday, April 21, 1974 with Formal Service beginning at 3:00 P.M. with the Reverend J. C. Harris, Pastor and First Baptist Church of Statesville, N. C., as special guest. The Cornerstone Ceremony, a tour of the Church and reception followed the Formal Service.

The following improvements have been made under the present administration:

- (1) The Balcony expansion to an additional seating of 100 in the spring of 1972 (Balcony seating capacity—200)
- (2) Establishing parking lot No. 2 on a two acre site purchased in 1971 at a cost of \$9,300.00 and developed at a cost of \$10,300.00 in the spring of 1972. (Total cost \$19,600.00)

- (3) Renovated and developed the newly named SOUTH EDUCATIONAL HALL (10 classrooms; 2 lounges for women and men with full toilet facilities, a sizable nursery and convertible classroom space for beginners, improved and expanded newly equipped kitchen, storage room and two furnace rooms.
- (4) Renovated and developed the newly named WEST ASSEMBLY HALL (five classrooms, Nurses Board room, small stage, reception space for small socials and Library) can be converted into dining space.
- (5) Newly built and named NORTH FELLOW-SHIP HALL (seating Hall space for 150) activity stage with four rooms for male and female designed for classrooms, two full toilets for male and female, two storage rooms, one powder room for women. This Hall is the main dining area.
- (6) The newly built and named R. M. PITTS MEMORIAL CHAPEL (seating capacity of 110) a rostrum with new pulpit, chairs and lectern, new pews with red cushions, one Usher's room, one Conference room, two rest rooms for male and female and Pastor's new office and room for office machine equipment. The chapel is designed for religious educational facilities, assembly meetings, such as Prayer Meetings, Church School teachers' meetings, auxiliary activities, B. T. U., and some choir rehearsals. The Chapel is opened into the Sanctuary at the Sunday Morning Worship for additional seating. The aisle space is designed for wheel chair worshippers and is amplified. The Chapel also has its own exit and entrance.
- (7) The renovated Sanctuary with a "NEW LOOK," acoustic (new) ceiling, new ceiling lights, chandeliers, and the expansion of the main choir stand to seat 60 and smaller choir stand to seat 30. Both choir stands are used on each Sunday at the 11:00 A.M. worship service. The seating capacity is 1,050 and with the chapel seating 1,160. The Sanctuary and Chapel are freshly painted ivory-white.

Shiloh is appreciative to all members and friends for their interest, fellowship and goodwill expressed through the years.

It is interesting to note that Dr. Butler and Shiloh recognize that the work of the church is more than BUILDING and RENOVATION. Even with all of this expensive work done to the church, last year Shiloh led all the churches in the state in giving to Missions and Christian Education and as of now is still up front! Keep up the good work!

STATE BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONGRESS
(101st Annual Session)
and
STATE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CONGRESS
(74th Annual Session)
AUGUST 6-8, 1974

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Fayetteville, North Carolina
DR. C. R. EDWARDS, Pastor

MOTEL RATES

Golden Eagle	one person	two persons	two persons
521 Ramsey St.	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two blocks from church	\$12.74	\$15.60	\$19.76
Phone: 483-2621		(extra person \$3.00 each)	
Downtowner	one person	two persons	two persons
134 Rowan St.	one bed	one bed	two beds
1½ blocks from church	\$13.10	\$16.22	\$19.76
Phone: 483-4141		(extra person \$3.00 each)	
Heart of Fayetteville	one person	two persons	two persons
2848 Bragg Blvd.	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two miles from church	\$13.10	\$16.12	\$17.42
		(extra person \$3.00 each)	
Holiday Inn	one person	two persons	two persons
Hwy. 301 South	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two miles from church	\$11.44	\$15.08	\$16.64
Phone: 483-0332			

All reservations should be made directly to the Motel.

There will be no private homes available except in an extreme case of emergency.

Only **lunch** will be served at the church for \$1.50. Breakfast and dinner meals may be secured at eating places of your choice.

REGISTRATION
INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Badges				\$ 2.00
EACH LOCAL SUNDAY SCHOOL REPRESENTATION				
0-100 Members	At Least			\$ 25.00
101-200 Members	At Least			\$ 50.00
201-up Members	At Least			\$ 75.00
EACH LOCAL B. T. U. REPRESENTATION				
0-100 Members	At Least			\$ 20.00
101-up Members	At Least			\$ 30.00
EACH DISTRICT OR COUNTY CONVENTION				
1-10 Churches	\$ 50.00	21-30 Churches		\$150.00
11-20 Churches	\$100.00	31-up Churches		\$200.00

FINANCIAL GOAL!!

FROM SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BAPTIST TRAINING UNIONS AND CONVENTIONS \$25,000.00

REGISTRATION GOAL!!

Local Sunday Schools	1,000
Local Baptist Training Unions	500
Messengers and Others	1,100

Please make all checks or money orders payable and send to:

General Baptist State Convention
603 So. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, AUGUST, 1974

NUMBER 8

STATE BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONGRESS (101st ANNUAL SESSION)

AND

STATE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CONGRESS (74th ANNUAL SESSION)

to be held with

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Fayetteville, North Carolina

Dr. C. R. Edwards, Pastor

AUGUST 6-8, 1974

NATIONAL THEME:

"Biblical Images for Contemporary Culture"

STATE THEME:

"Biblical Images of God and Contemporary Culture"

BIBLICAL MOTTO:

"And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."
—(Exodus 3:14)

"STEWARDSHIP"

Leader J. Ray Butler

"The Unified Program"

Leader

SERMONS

The Annual Sermon N. M. Avery

The Closing Sermon T. L. Steele

PROGRAM

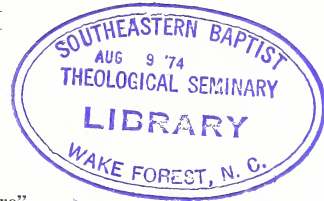
TUESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 6, 1974

- 9:00 A.M. Registration of Messengers and Enrollment
for Classes
- 11:00 A.M. The Opening Assembly — J. W. Martin,
Presiding
Music—Mrs. Eddye Fogle and
Mrs. J. Young Mims
Introduction of Program and Instructors —
Leo Williams, Jr.
- 11:45 A.M. "The Biblical Image of God —
Thomas L. Walker
- 12:00 Noon Business and Announcements
Adjournment

- 12:30 P.M. Lunch — Congress Officers' and District
Conventions Presidents' Luncheon

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

- Althornton Canada, Presiding
Devotion-Music — Mrs. Eddye Fogle,
Mrs. J. Young Mims
Devotional Leader — George Edwards
"The Biblical Image of Divine-Human
Relations:"
- 2:15 P.M. Workshop — "Baptist Doctrine —
Articles of Faith"
Leader — J. C. Harris
- 2:45 P.M. Questions and Answers
- 3:00 P.M. Workshop — "The New Morality"
Leader — Miss Josephine Tyner
- 3:30 P.M. Questions and Answers
- 3:45 P.M. Class Period
- 4:30 P.M. Recreation
- 5:30 P.M. Dinner



THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

GEORGE W. DUDLEY, *Editor*
MISS JOSEPHINE TYNER, *Secretary*
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to *Baptist Informer*, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to
Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of
Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES

"You have put your heart into your work, and the quality of your work has put heart into you!"

Our BIRTHDAY TRIBUTES go out to three dedicated members of the Baptist Headquarters staff:

MISS BETTIE CHISLOM is the Assistant to the Executive Secretary of the Woman's Convention. Her birthday was JULY 10.

MRS. CAPTOLA LATTA is the Secretary to the Director of Christian Education and to the Assistant to the Executive Secretary. Her birthday is JULY 25.

MRS. M. W. DUNN is Administrative Assistant to the Executive Secretary and the Assistant to the Executive Secretary. Her birthday is on AUGUST 15.

We are sure that the Executive Secretaries and other members of this Convention would have us convey these special words to you:

Thank You, Thank You
for the good work that you do
The Headquarters is a better place
Because of people like you.

All of life is a challenge
Knowledge is the greatest need,
But you seem to know how to live
Where to invest your thought and deed.

Thank you, Thank you
For the good work that you do.
The world needs your helping hand.
May God's richest blessings rest on you.

NEWS IN BRIEF

The Annual Vacation Bible School was held at the Endstreet Baptist Church, Scotland Neck, North Carolina, April 22 through the 26th. Theme for the week was "Good News For Jesus." It was well attended. The classes were taught by Mrs. Hester Clark, Mrs. Bessie Pender, Mrs. Gertrude Savage, Mrs. Louise Smith, Miss Susie Pender, Brother Otto Whitaker, Deacon Percy James and Dr. G. E. Brown. Other persons include Miss Vanessa Field, Pianist; Miss Bernadine Smith, Secretary and Mrs. Estella Smith, Director. The total enrollment for the week was 381. It was a week of enjoyment, study and fellowship. Dr. G. E. Brown is Pastor of Endstreet Baptist.

* * * * *

The Annual Vacation Bible School of the Willow Chapel Baptist Church of Gold Point, North Carolina, was held during the week of April 29 through May 3. The theme for the week was "Good News is Jesus." Classes were taught by Sister Roberta Brown, Sister Jackie Lee, Sister Ruby Clark, Sister Mary F. Brown, Sister Vera Wynn and Brothers Jesse Black and Russell Matthewson. Dr. G. E. Brown is also Pastor of Willow Chapel. Total enrollment for the week was 108.

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

PROGRAM
(Continued from page 1)

TUESDAY EVENING

J. W. Martin, Presiding

- 7:00 P.M. Devotion-Music — Mrs. Fogle and
Mrs. Mims
Devotional Leader — Chauncey Singletary
"Exploring Man's Relationship with
God"
- 7:15 P.M. Program of Welcome — Host Church
Response
- 7:45 P.M. Offering
Music — The First Baptist Church Choir,
Fayetteville
- 8:00 P.M. The Annual Sermon — N. M. Avery
Music — The First Baptist Church Choir,
Fayetteville
Announcements
Adjournment

WEDNESDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7, 1974

Miss Patsy Rice, Presiding

- 7:00 A.M. Breakfast
- 8:30 A.M. Class Period
- 10:00 A.M. Devotion-Music — Mrs. Fogle and
Mrs. Mims
Devotional Leader — Walter H. Mapp, Sr.
"Christian Education as Man's Search for
Meaning Beyond Himself"
- 10:15 A.M. Workshop — "The Role of the Pupil"
Leader — J. E. Arnette
- 10:45 A.M. Questions and Answers
- 11:00 A.M. Workshop — "Planning and Conducting the
Institute"
Leader — R. D. Lucas
- 11:30 A.M. Greetings and Information
General Baptist Convention —
O. L. Sherrill and C. R. Edwards
Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary
Convention — Mrs. J. B. McLester
Music — The Congress Choir
- 12:00 Noon The President's Annual Address —
J. W. Martin
- 12:25 P.M. Offering
Adjournment
- 12:30 P.M. Lunch

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

U. S. Hamilton, Presiding

- 2:00 P.M. Devotion-Music — Mrs. Fogle and
Mrs. Mims
Devotional Leader — W. H. McKoy
"Man As God's Steward"
- 2:15 P.M. Workshop — "Church Administration"
Leader — K. O. P. Goodwin
- 2:45 P.M. Questions and Answers
- 3:00 P.M. Workshop — "Stewardship"
Leader — J. Ray Butler
- 3:30 P.M. Questions and Answers

- 3:45 P.M. Conventions' Presidents' Hour
(county and district)
- 4:15 P.M. Recreation
- 5:30 P.M. Dinner

WEDNESDAY EVENING

BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CONGRESS

David C. Freeman, Presiding

- 7:00 P.M. Devotion-Music — Mrs. Fogle and
Mrs. Mims
Devotional Leader —
"The Task of the Christian Leader under
God"
- 7:15 P.M. Business
- 7:30 P.M. Music — Friendship Baptist Church Choirs,
Fayetteville
- 7:40 P.M. Memorial Service
- 7:50 P.M. Music — Friendship Baptist Church Choirs
- 8:00 P.M. President's Annual Address —
Clifton Stone
- 8:30 P.M. Offering-Music — Friendship Church Choirs
- 8:40 P.M. Youth Talent Hour — Sunday School and
B.T.U. Convention, Union Association
- 9:30 P.M. Adjournment

THURSDAY MORNING, AUGUST 8

Clifton Stone, Presiding

- 7:00 A.M. Breakfast
- 8:30 A.M. Class Finalization
- 9:00 A.M. Devotional Leader — Mrs. Ineaze Wicker
"Christian Education As A Tool In God's
Work"
- 9:15 A.M. Greetings and Information:
State Ushers Convention — Arthur Williams
State Laymen's League — Frank Marshall
- 9:20 A.M. Music
- 9:30 A.M. The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest
Director — Mrs. Hazel McLean
Assistant Director — Mrs. Emaretta Felton
Music
- 11:30 A.M. Business:
Reports from Committees and Classes —
Awarding Certificates and Prizes
- 12:00 Noon The Closing Sermon — T. L. Steele
Benediction

Dates To Remember

Aug. 26-30—Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Shiloh, Greensboro, N. C.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention, U. S. A., Inc. Buffalo, N. Y.

Sept. 3-8—National Baptist Convention of America, Nashville, Tenn.

Sept. 3-8—Progressive Baptist Convention, Cleveland, Ohio

Woman's Page----

THE 1974 J. J. JOHNSON CAMP AND BAPTIST ASSEMBLY

By Eva Merritt Pratt

As long as I live, I shall always remember June 3-28, 1974! It was on these dates that the sprawling, white gates to the J. J. Johnson Camp and Baptist Assembly were swung wide, admitting hundreds of happy, thankful and gleeful boys and girls, men and women, ministers and missionaries from all over our fair state of North Carolina who had converged on this blessing from God, to witness a "long awaited dream come true."

Winding our way along the road, we come first to the Cafeteria. Oh, the beauty of this lovely building, the sweet, clean smell of good things to eat, the colorful furniture and the friendly smiles of the cooks made one forget home and its comforts and just drink in the beautiful surroundings.

Leaving the cafeteria, we came next to the cabins, our home for the duration of the sessions. One cannot overlook the uniqueness of the cabins, the arrangement, the clean beautiful beds, showers and other fixtures. And then the assembly room or chapel arranged for all who dwell therein, for worship, study, fellowship, and what-have-you.

And then the swimming pool! So huge, so clean and so tempting, even with your clothes on! It was so well-planned that everyone can appreciate its beauty whether you swim in it or not. You can be grateful that it is a part of the grounds!

The play area for numerous games such as softball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, horse shoes and the like is quite noticeable also, even though the area is not completed as such. Still, it was completed enough for everyone to join in many games and sports for fun. No one minded the sand. Shoes and sandals were completely abandoned as everyone engaged in wholesome sports and the joy of winning a game.

Another beauty spot is the guest lodge. If you did not know it was there, you just might overlook it, nestled among the long-leaf pines, water oaks, dogwood and other varieties of trees. Here in this cottage, with its individual, apartment-like setting, one could easily spend a lifetime and have no regrets. It is conducive to privacy for those who desire it.

It was not a task to get into the new homes, unpack and get ready for a busy week because everyone was anxious to enjoy everything the camp had to offer. The early morning coolness enabled everyone to rise early, shower, clean rooms and get to an early breakfast. The smell of crispy bacon, hot toast and the like was enough to bring one hurrying to the cafeteria.

After a good, hot breakfast, campers and their adult leaders enjoyed an inspirational worship service which set the stage for an enjoyable day. Out under the wide blue sky, with a sprawling water oak to provide shade, campers studied together "THE LAND WHERE JESUS LIVED." Truly, the stories seemed to "Come alive" in such pleasant surroundings so much like Palestine. It was amazing that each child brought his or her own Bible and studied it diligently. It was no problem holding their attention for two hours. Many wanted to continue, but we had a schedule and it was pertinent that we adhered to it.

After a two hour class period campers engaged in arts and crafts as they so desired. Such useful things were made as colorful bouquets of flowers, Hawaiian leis, pocketbooks, place mats, and the like. Mrs. Eva M. Pratt and Mrs. Alice Wilson taught the courses in arts and crafts. A beautiful bulletin board was also constructed. Those who wished to be charming were assisted in the charm clinics by Mrs. Eva Johnson.

The Directors, the Reverend J. C. Harris and Dr. W. B. Lewis led the daily discussions, "LET'S TALK IT OVER." These inspirational messages aroused the thinking of campers and motivated them to ask questions which aided them in learning numerous things about themselves and everyday topics of interest.

In the afternoon, following a period of recreation and relaxation, campers donned swimming togs and took off to the swimming pool. There, those who could not swim were taught daily in classes designed to make swimming more interesting and more secure.

Of all the various activities which campers engaged in, seemingly it was the evening vespers that inspired them most. It was Reverend Harris, however, who could stir everyone up most, with his sermon-like messages which were short and spicy. All campers were encouraged to ask questions or give their views on the various issues so the discussions would be more enjoyable.

Campers also saw filmstrips and heard records on "Dating," "How parents help," "The role of

parents and children in respect to dating," and the like. Campers were highly intelligent in their discussions and displayed attitudes that showed they were well taught in the home.

Each evening the directors shared ideas and suggestions with all staff persons so as to keep the camp running smoothly. Campers and counselors alike worked together in such harmony that everyone was happy and really enjoyed the camp experiences.

Many discussions were held on "FINDING GOD IN NATURE." Boys and girls expressed many opinions as they looked up in the midst of their Bible study to see how happy the birds were, how gaily the little squirrels hopped about from tree to tree and finally to the ground. Out in the fields and woods with God, far away from racing autos, trucks, loud noisy crowds and shrilling whistles, in the serenity of real camp life, it was easy to look upward, across the horizon and know that God is there and that all is right with the world.

At night, among Christian youths from across the state, after a rich, full day, tired and happy, campers gathered in their individual cabins, took their showers and prepared for bed. But before a goodnight was uttered, everyone enjoyed cottage prayers; scriptures were read and each thanked God for the brave women, young adults and youths of North Carolina who struggled hard, make many sacrifices, endured much criticism, scorn and derision to make their dreams come true. Now we got to keep on talking about it, praying about it and working for it even harder until the job is finished, to everyone's satisfaction and Camp J. J. Johnson becomes the best, the most beautiful in our country! Every Baptist church, every Baptist in our state should feel proud to work and sacrifice to this end.

To you, Mrs. Horne, Reverend Harris, Dr. Lewis, Mrs. Daye, Mrs. McLester, Dr. Alston, Misses Cynthia King, Ethel Stanfield, Annie M. Armstrong, Mesdames M. C. Grier, Louise Gause, Evelyn Monk, Rosa Holloway, Mary Smith, L. Goodwin, Dianne McIver and all who helped, may God bless you for helping us to have the "GREATEST CAMP EXPERIENCE EVER."

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING...

By Mr. Clifton Stone, President
Baptist Training Union Congress

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

On Tuesday and Wednesday, May 14 and 15, the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., held its annual mid-year sessions at the Shiloh Baptist Church of Henderson, N. C., Dr. R. W. Perry, Minister. For the Wednesday session, the ministers and messengers arrived

early and by midday the church was filled with an overflow crowd and everyone seemed to be in high spirits and in a mood to go forward. Dr. J. W. White, Past President, preached from a subject, "Is There Any Word From the Lord For Our Times," and the Reverend W. C. Horton preached from the subject, "Something Went Wrong In The Field." Both of these sermons were not only spirit-filled, but had deep philosophy for our present age. Both were well received. Dr. Hargraves, President of Shaw University, gave some important information concerning future programs at Shaw as well as the success of the Shaw's "School Without Walls." We had a glowing report of our foreign mission program along with names of those in North Carolina who were responsible for at least \$1,000.00. Mr. Bryant brought greetings from the Central Orphanage in Oxford. We heard from the Executive Secretary, Dr. O. L. Sherrill, who gave an updated report on the progress of the \$500,000.00 goal for this year. He stated that we need \$202,964.00 by the end of the fiscal year. All of these reports were well received along with the auxiliary Presidents and then came the letdown—our total receipts for the session was only \$45,000.00.

NOW WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

First, let us note the following: We as leaders and ministers need to stop exploiting our followers. We need to stop hypocritizing. We need to either fulfill our calling or "get off the pot." We make a lot of noise about how the Lord called us and how the Holy Ghost is leading us, yet many of us will not take the time to inform our church about the programs of the Convention. Many of our congregations have never heard about our foreign mission programs or about the homeless boys and girls at the Orphanage. Yet, we will have these so called Revivals, raise a lot of money (?), have these pastor's appreciation services, special days, etc., building great buildings, buying fine cars (I noticed five cars at Shiloh that were worth far more than our receipts were), and we will tant and rave about how we have the work at heart, but we are keeping it all for ourselves. It would be surprising to note the number of churches, associations, union meetings and loyal conventions over this state who not only are not supporting the convention goals and not informing their followers of the same, but who have standing treasures twice the amount that the Convention has. Now since there is no foreseeable change in the status of our leaders, just maybe we as a Convention can help ourselves a little.

In July we will be in Durham for the Ushers' Convention; in August we will be in Winston-Salem for the Woman's Convention and later in Fayetteville for the State Sunday School and

Baptist Training Union Congress and then in November the Annual Session in Raleigh. When you consider the total expense of all of these, you will come up with some figure around \$10,000.00 (travel, food, lodging, honorariums, badges, programs, etc., and most of this will be paid by individuals, you can note that prior to becoming an official of the Convention, I gave a lot more actual money than I do now, simply because I am obligated to attend all meetings now and the money goes for these). I sincerely believe that it would be much better to consolidate all the auxiliaries and have all their conventions one week in the year (especially since we are supposed to be unified). I realize that this would mean that some of our "two by four" individuals would not have a chance to parade around and make a lot of noise, but who cares? Our job is to implement the love of God to all nations. We have a charge to keep and that is to serve the present age. If we could meet in this one week and just set up the guidelines and inspire the people, they would go back home and through the year do the job. One thing we could be sure of, we could at least save money because we do have many leaders who attend all the meetings and I am sure if they are like me, this money would go directly to the Convention. Of course, this is one point of view. But Where Do We Go From Here?

MOUNT PEACE WOMAN AUXILIARY GIVES BANQUET

"Laborers Together"

"WHAT A FELLOWSHIP"

It was a fellowship indeed for over three hundred guest who attended the Mount Peace Woman Auxiliary Banquet held Saturday, May 25 at the Sheraton Inn in Charlotte, North Carolina. Ladies in long brightly colored dresses, men in conservative attire, the laughter and chattering of voices were some of the ingredients that made an evening of gaiety that will certainly be remembered by all who attended the occasion. A warm and hearty salute to the Mount Peace Woman Auxiliary for a job well done!

The liveliness and relaxing atmosphere of the banquet reflexed the gracious personality of Mrs. H. S. Diggs, who is the chairman of the Woman Auxiliary and served as mistress of ceremony. A person who smiles very easily, Mrs. Diggs sometimes candid remarks brought laughter from the guest in attendance. Seemingly always relaxed and in control with any audience, Mrs.

Diggs should be commended for an excellent job of presiding at the banquet.

The evening was not only enjoyable but entertaining as well. Ears were filled with beautiful singing by Ms. Rose Campbell and a lovely poem read by Mrs. Minnie Conner.

Needless to say, behind any good organization there is an outstanding leader and outstanding she is! Mrs. Cora P. Reid, President of the Mount Peace Woman Auxiliary, has worked diligently, steadfastly, tirelessly and last but not least faithfully as President for four years. The appreciation for services rendered was shown her with a presentation of gifts by Mrs. McCullough on behalf of the Woman Auxiliary. The moment was heart filling for Mrs. Reid. A woman who is usually at no loss for words, seemed at this moment completely lost and there were tears of joy as she thanked the Auxiliary. Congratulations to Mrs. Reid for her faithful service and the women should look forward to many more years of leadership and guidance from her.

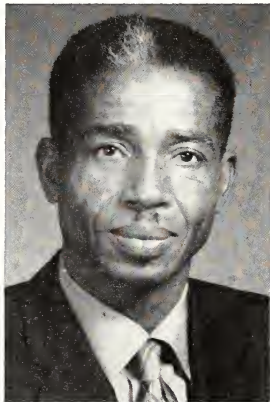
The evening was favored by thoughts from the Moderator of the Mount Peace Association, the Reverend J. A. White. The Moderator reminisced and reflected on the progress of the church and reminded all that they should indeed be grateful and feel privileged to attend such an occasion.

It seemed the evening was filled with enjoyable treats. The best was yet to come as Mrs. Stitt introduced the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Paul Drummond. A lady of wit and deliberate humor, she presented her speech with confidence and calmness. Speaking from the theme "Laborers Together," Mrs. Drummond delivered her speech in a well versed manner. She challenged the listeners to put their sources together for a better product, to get more involved in political matters, and "to do all we can to cure the ills of society." "It is still a beautiful world," Mrs. Drummond said at the conclusion of her speech, "regardless of the ills of society." The words were easy to believe coming from the speaker. The speech was thoughtfully delivered and the poetry was fused beautifully with the content of the speech.

Reverend Digg's remarks after Mrs. Drummond's speech were fitting in reminding the banquet guest that it is because of laboring together that "we've come a long ways." Indeed, with such a person as Mrs. Drummond in society, this is indeed still a beautiful world.

The Reverend J. E. Palmer rendered the closing prayer for the banquet.

FIRST BAPTIST VENTURES FORWARD



Dr. J. J. Johnson, Pastor

First Baptist Church, North Main Street, Fairmont, North Carolina has embarked upon unique New Ministries initiated by her distinguished Pastor and Politician, Dr. Joy J. Johnson.

The church has purchased valuable property in a white neighborhood in the vicinity of the Church at a cost of nearly \$50,000; and sold lots to the members, who have built modern expensive homes as well as purchased older homes for occupancy. A community that was once lily white, but now totally integrated as result of this new Home Ownership purchase ministry by the pastor and church.

The most recent ministry put into action was the construction of a church owned community swimming pool at a cost of \$15,000. The pool is the first owned, operated and racially intergrated (Indians, Blacks and Whites) by a church in the state. The pool when completed will have showers, bathrooms, barbecue pit with complete outside cooking accommodations.

The pool area is fenced and paved, with large parking area. A basketball court and other play equipment are available for all age groups.

The pool is named the Alexander Patterson Memorial Pool in memory of this youth who was drowned ten years ago in an irrigation pond.

As a result of these New Unique Ministries a totally intergrated (Indian, Black and White) B.T.U. and Sunday School are in the process of being organized, becoming the first in the state.

Dr. Johnson is a great political leader as well as an efficient and effective pastor. In the May Democratic Primary he was nominated for a third term to the N. C. General Assembly.

These are only a few of the bills introduced by him that have become law since his election in 1970 to the State Legislature from the 21st District including Robeson, Hoke, and Scotland counties. The district include Indians, Blacks and Whites: (1) Repeal of the Welfare Lien Law, Restoration of Citizenship, The Equal Opportunity Act which bans discrimination based on race, creed, color, sex and national origin in local and state governments; Sickle Cell Anemia Council, and require all state jobs to be filed with the State Employment Commission. The exposing of the sterilization of Blacks by the State's Eugenic Board by Dr. Johnson. The law has been greatly liberalized.

Dr. Johnson has been very active in the State Baptist Convention holding several positions; presently he is First Vice President. He indicated also that he will be a candidate for President of the Convention in November.

CEDAR GROVE ASSOCIATION HELD CHURCH WIDE INSTITUTE

The Cedar Grove Baptist Association held a week's study of Church-Wide Administration, March 18 through March 22, 1974, at the home of the Cedar Grove Association near Yanceyville, N. C.

The Moderator of the Cedar Grove Association, Dr. W. E. Mills, along with the pastors, deacons, and laity welcomed the instructors from our State Baptist Headquarters at Raleigh, N. C. with open minds to receive such wonderful information.

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, executive secretary, brought us greetings from the General Baptist State Convention. He then introduced the instructors who would teach the classes in the institute. They were the following: Dr. C. C. Craig, assistant executive secretary, Rev. Leo Williams, Director of Christian Education, Mr. H. D. Cooper, Layman Secretary, and Mr. J. W. Martin, President of State Sunday School Congress.

Dr. Craig conducted the class for the pastors, deacons and laymen in church administration. Rev. Leo Williams conducted the class for the ladies in home and foreign missions. Mr. John W. Martin instructed the youth on Monday night; then Mr. H. D. Cooper instructed the classes for the remaining nights. Rev. R. J. Howard served as devotional Chairman, and Rev. P. J. Woods was in charge of the music nightly.

STATE BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL CONGRESS
(101st Annual Session)
and
STATE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CONGRESS
(74th Annual Session)
AUGUST 6-8, 1974

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Fayetteville, North Carolina
DR. C. R. EDWARDS, Pastor

MOTEL RATES

Golden Eagle	one person	two persons	two persons
521 Ramsey St.	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two blocks from church	\$12.74	\$15.60	\$19.76
Phone: 483-2621	(extra person \$3.00 each)		
Downtowner	one person	two persons	two persons
134 Rowan St.	one bed	one bed	two beds
1½ blocks from church	\$13.10	\$16.22	\$19.76
Phone: 483-4141	(extra person \$3.00 each)		
Heart of Fayetteville	one person	two persons	two persons
2848 Bragg Blvd.	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two miles from church	\$13.10	\$16.12	\$17.42
	(extra person \$3.00 each)		
Holiday Inn	one person	two persons	two persons
Hwy. 301 South	one bed	one bed	two beds
Two miles from church	\$11.44	\$15.08	\$16.64
Phone: 483-0332			

All reservations should be made directly to the Motel.

There will be no private homes available except in an extreme case of emergency.

Only **lunch** will be served at the church for \$1.50. Breakfast and dinner meals may be secured at eating places of your choice.

REGISTRATION
INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

Badges \$ 2.00

EACH LOCAL SUNDAY SCHOOL REPRESENTATION

0-100 Members	At Least	\$ 25.00
101-200 Members	At Least	\$ 50.00
201-up Members	At Least	\$ 75.00

EACH LOCAL B. T. U. REPRESENTATION

0-100 Members	At Least	\$ 20.00
101-up Members	At Least	\$ 30.00

EACH DISTRICT OR COUNTY CONVENTION

1-10 Churches	\$ 50.00	21-30 Churches	\$150.00
11-20 Churches	\$100.00	31-up Churches	\$200.00

FINANCIAL GOAL! ! !

FROM SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BAPTIST TRAINING UNIONS AND CONVENTIONS \$25,000.00

REGISTRATION GOAL! ! !

Local Sunday Schools	1,000
Local Baptist Training Unions	500
Messengers and Others	1,100

Please make all checks or money orders payable and send to:

General Baptist State Convention
603 So. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH



Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, SEPTEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 9

1974 ANNUAL SESSION STATE SUNDAY SCHOOL and BAPTIST TRAINING UNION CONGRESS

By: Leo Williams, Jr.

"Come; for all things are now ready," was the attitude of hospitality which permeated the atmosphere at the First Baptist Church, Fayetteville, even before the first messenger arrived to begin the 101st Annual Session of the State Sunday School Congress and the 74th Annual Session of the State Baptist Training Union Congress, auxiliaries to the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc., August 6-8.

Our deepest appreciation is extended to the pastor, Dr. C. R. Edwards, the staff, special committees, and the entire membership of the First Baptist Church for their early planning and preparation, their assistance and warm hospitality which made our meeting a memorable occasion.

Our Congress theme, "Biblical Images of God and Contemporary Culture," began taking form and meaning as Mr. J. W. Martin, Sunday School Congress President, so ably led us into the opening assembly on scheduled time. The President and the official staff of the Sunday School Congress are to be highly commended for their deep concern and excellent performance in leading us through a highly successful session. We hasten to add that President Martin's address was superb!

The classes' reports attest to the fact that the instructors were well prepared and the pupils were as well receptive. Thanks to the instructors, Dr. E. B. Turner, Rev. W. B. Moore, Rev. James Raye, Rev. J. L. Morgan, Mrs. Annie M.

Evans, Mrs. Carolyn Manley and Miss Bernice Carter for a job well done.

The workshops were dynamically conducted by Rev. J. C. Harris, Mrs. Josephine Dunn, Dr. J. J. Johnson, Rev. J. E. Arnette, Rev. R. D. Lucas, Dr. J. Ray Butler and Rev. E. L. Brodie, for which we are grateful and through which we were deeply challenged.

We were inspired through powerful sermons as Dr. N. M. Avery and Rev. T. L. Steele preached by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Each devotional period related to its particular context as the leaders, Rev. Thomas Walker, Rev. George Edwards, Mr. Chauncey Singletary, Mr. Walter Mapp, Mr. W. H. McKoy, Rev. J. D. Lockley, and Mrs. Inease T. Wicker prepared the Congress for what was to follow in the hour.

The gavel was turned over to Mr. Clifton Stone, President, State Baptist Training Union Congress, on Wednesday evening. With deep concern, President Stone and the official staff directed this session of the Congress to a new height of understanding and a rededication of each participant to the great task of church training which lies before us. It is needless to say that in his usual manner, Mr. Stone delivered a most challenging address to the Congress on Wednesday evening.

Our good fortune was to enjoy a Youth Talent Hour on Wednesday evening. Thursday morning

(Continued on page 7)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

MRS. JOSEPHINE T. DUNN, SECRETARY
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, Promotional Director

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to *Baptist Informer*, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Fortunately, this ninth month of the year does offer us one holiday, Labor Day, and of course, we celebrate it as a "rest" day. Like our ancestors, we should take an opportunity to praise God for the privilege of being "labourers together with him."

The Baptist Informer is very glad to honor one laboring soldier of the Convention who was born in September.

He is our EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-TREASURER, DR. O. L. SHERRILL.

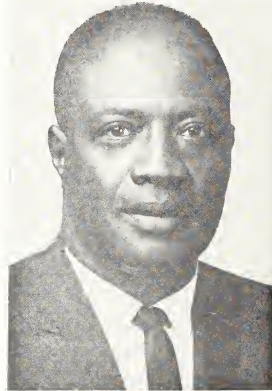
Dr. Sherrill is truly a soldier who goes forth with the gospel of the Lord to the ends of the state; a soldier who braves the onslaughts of criticism and ridicule, of privation and suffering to the Glory of God. He carries this banner with but one aim in service—to proclaim salvation through faith in the shed blood of Christ Jesus.

Without doubt, Channing describes our Executive Secretary when he wrote:

"The greatest man is he who chooses the right with invincible resolutions; who resists the sorest temptations from within and without; who bears the heaviest burdens cheerfully; who is calmest in storms, and most fearless under menace and frowns; and whose reliance on truth, on virtue, and on God, is most unflinching."

**Subscribe Now
to the
BAPTIST INFORMER**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY—SEPTEMBER 17



News Release:

CHARTER PLANE SEATS ARE FILLED

Reservations have been made for all 95 seats on the charter plane to the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., in September. A waiting list has begun for those who applied late. Enthusiasm is building for those who plan to travel together to Buffalo, N. Y. Regretfully, a second plane was canceled but everything looks positive for a plane to leave the Raleigh-Durham airport on September 3. More details and information will be sent to those people holding reservations.

Woman's Page----

August 13, 1974

Mrs. M. A. Horne
Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Woman's State Home & Foreign
Missionary Convention, Inc.
603 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27610

Dear Mrs. Horne:

The Woman's Baptist State Home and Foreign Missionary Convention that was held July 29th-August 2nd at First Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, was one of the most organized structures in program entertainment that I have encountered.

It is my feeling that you are one of the most superb thinkers in your area of work than any person I know.

Many thank to you, the president Mrs. McLester, the officials and office staff for a job well done.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,
J. Ray Butler, Pastor
Shiloh Baptist Church,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

The Johnston County Annual Benefit Dinner

The Johnston Missionary Union sponsored its Annual Benefit Dinner which was held at the Agriculture Building, Smithfield, North Carolina. This is a Junior Missionary project and was dedicated to Mrs. Yvonne Mitchell, who is Junior Supervisor of Johnston County. The dinner was delicious and everyone enjoyed it.

A special program was rendered by the youth department in honor of Mrs. Mitchell for the wonderful services she is rendering.

The cosage was presented to Mrs. Mitchell by Mrs. Clara Ballentine, President of the Adult Missionary Department. Miss Juanita Wright of Strickland Grove was Mistress of Ceremony. The opening remarks were given by the Supervisor of Strickland Grove, Mrs. Joshlin Rodgers Williams. Prayer by Michell Sessoms of First Baptist Church, Smithfield. Other items of interest on the program were: solos by Miss Delphine Bullock and Miss Regina Gray; tributes by Billy Harding and Mrs. Katie Kelly, an aunt, gave interesting facts about the life of Mrs. Mitchell beginning

with her early years. Gifts were represented by Mrs. Joshlin Williams, the Good Samaritan youths and others.

Miss Valerie Nesbitt presented a paper in which she emphasized Mrs. Mitchell's hard work and Christian friendship.

Following a response from the Junior Supervisor, Rev. L. E. Simpson gave closing remarks.

Dedications To Mrs. Mitchell

Thanks to you for supporting the Benefit Dinner, Though we know it won't make you any thinner. Its purpose is to help finish the camp site, So that some youth may be led into the marvelous light.

We are trying hard to do our part;
And we feel that God will bless each heart.
We thank Him for this fellowship;
We hope one day you will take a trip.
A trip to see where this finance will go,
We surely think it will make your heart glow.
Glow to realize that you had a part,
In changing some youth's tender heart.
So to each one here we say again—thanks to you.
And we're sure that God will bless you too.
(Thanks to Mrs. Mitchell from the Johnston County Youth Department.)

There Is No Love Greater Than Sister Mitchell's Love

For her love is like an island,
In life's ocean vast and wide
A peaceful quiet shelter
For the restless rising tide.
Her love is like a fortress,
And we seek protection there.
When the wave of tribulation
Seems to drown us in despair.
Her love is like a Sanctuary
Where our souls can find sweet rest.
From the struggle of the tension
Of life's fast futile quest.
Her love is like a tower rising
From above the crowd.
And her smile is like sunshine breaking
Through threatening clouds.
For God knew in His great wisdom
That He couldn't be everywhere.
So He puts His little children
In Sister Mitchell's loving care.

By: Joshlin Rodgers Williams

NEWS ACROSS THE STATE

By: Mrs. Mamie McL. Faison

CLINTON—

Thursday morning, August 1, at 6:20 members and friends of the Upper Sampson Mission Union, an auxiliary to the Western Union Association of Sampson County, went by bus to Winston-Salem, North Carolina to attend the Woman's Convention. The Convention was in session at the First Baptist Church, Dr. David R. Hedgley, Pastor.

Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the trip and the activities of the Convention. Those making the trip from their respective churches were:

First Baptist, Clinton—Deacon and Mrs. W. W. Carr, Mesdames E. V. Robinson, Mabel Dunston, Rose Brewington, B. U. Jones, Arletha B. Graham, Lavern Williams, Betty T. Monroe, Katy Faison, Kathlene Floyd, Maggie Cousins, Everline Rich and Maxwell Rich;

Lisbon Street, Clinton—Mesdames Retha Killett, Sanky Herring, Comey J. Bennett, Gladys McCoy, Mary V. Purnell, Annie L. Butler, Ruby Bennett, Ann J. Hall, Mamie Faison, Girlie Underwood, Onie Eason, Lilly Bellamy, Alice G. McCallop, Ruby L. Bennett and Miss Killett;

Littlefield Baptist Church—Misses Rose Bennett and Sharon West; Mesdames Leah Parker and Lereau Parker;

Browns Chapel—Mrs. Kenella B. Faison;
Snow Hill—Mrs. J. L. Ezzell;
Red Hill—Mrs. Sampson;

Other friends who went were: Miss Mabel Powell and nephew, Mr. Howard L. Goodman.

Officers of the Upper Sampson Mission Union are:

President—Mrs. E. V. Robinson
Secretary—Mrs. Leah Parker
Treasurer—Mrs. Alberta Wadsworth
Special Worker—Mrs. Comey J. Bennett
Field Worker—Mrs. Katy Faison

Publicity Chairman and Reporter—Mrs. Mamie McL. Faison.

registered delegates, of whom 11 were Pastors and 54 were Ambassadors. In addition, quite a number of friends honored us with their presence and good wishes, so that Rock Hill Baptist Church was just about filled.

We especially thank our host Pastor, the Reverend H. B. Ferguson, who is Moderator of the Mud Creek Association, and the Laymen of Rock Hill—helped by the ladies, of course—and our President, Brother Frank H. Marshall, and his supporters from Mt. Zion who included Brother Nathaniel Wood, Assistant Secretary, who recorded and read the minutes of the session of the Executive Board, and their illustrious Pastor, Dr. J. W. White, former President of the General Baptist State Convention, all of whom welcomed us so warmly to their area. They were supported by other nearby pastors and churches also, for example was the Reverend Wesley Grant of Worldwide Tabernacle Baptist Church; and you know what he did without my telling you—he brought us right into the presence of the Holy Spirit with two of his moving songs during the session.

The bus load from Fayetteville included our strong Secretary, Brother Richard L. Cogdell, and our esteemed Treasurer, Brother Thomas Smith, but we were disappointed that our First Vice-President, Brother John McQueen, could not come with them this time.

Brother Johnny Johnson and our capable Second Vice-President, Brother James Grier, both of Charlotte, got the registration under way soon after the scheduled hour of 10:00, and bus loads of men and boys came in so well that the Executive Board noticed the good size of the crowd and realized that it would do well to plan something of interest at the next One-Day Session to benefit the group for about one hour before dinner. That meeting will be at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, in Charlotte, on April 19th, 1975, with Dr. L. C. Riddick as the host Pastor.

In the Executive Board Meeting, encouraging reports were given of examples of growth of the Laymen's movement. New Laymen's Leagues have been organized at the following churches and were represented at the Asheville session: have been organized at the following churches Second Newlight Baptist Church, St. Pauls, N. C.; Friendship, of Fayetteville; Mt. Pisgah, of Raeford; and Ebenezer, of Shelby. We were also informed of a joint Semi-Revival to be sponsored by the Laymen of our Union Association and the Brotherhood of New South River Association for the week of June 2 through 7, 1974, with six meetings rotating among different churches.

LAYMEN HOLD SPLENDID SESSION IN ASHEVILLE

By Henry D. Cooper, Laymen's Worker

I am sure that all of us who had the good fortune to attend the State Baptist Laymen's League Convention in Asheville on April 20, 1974, agree that this was one of the most successful meetings that we have had. There were 187

The Reverend R. H. Leak, Pastor of St. John Baptist Church, Newell, N. C., made some highly pertinent suggestions in the Executive Board meeting and also helped Brother David Thompson of Lumberton and Brother Grier in leading the devotions. The welcome address was given in a most cordial tone by Brother Smith Cunningham, of the host church, and Brother Daniel Lee of Charlotte expressed the at-home feeling of all of us in giving the response.

We were indeed glad to have Rev. Wilch Caldwell, of Charlotte, back with us to conduct the workshop for the Ambassadors. Rev. Caldwell has a full record of dedicated service as a layman over many past years, though he has recently answered the call to the ministry. He also gave us some positive guidance in the Executive Board meeting. In the workshop, he was assisted by Brother James Lawrence of Charlotte and Brother Zeno Borders of Shelby, both of whom are members of the special state-wide committee on the Ambassadors.

We are really encouraged by the growth of the boys' department, called the Royal Ambassadors. Under the auspices of your church, the boys of your locality learn the serious aspects of Christian life, and they also have fun, such as going fishing, hiking, and camping, and by learning hand-craft. There are uniforms for them, too. If you would like to start this fine movement, just write for information to: Brotherhood Commission, Southern Baptist Convention, 1548 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee 38104.

In the Laymen's Workshop we were especially fortunate that Dr. E. B. Turner, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Lumberton, N. C., Moderator of Lumber River Association, and one of our General Convention Vice-Presidents, consented to take a section again this year. His presentation equalled—if it could surpass—his regular high standard of teaching. Our theme was, "Accounting for our World Stewardship," and Dr. Turner used well-prepared charts to reduce the Biblical mandates and warnings to visually expressed outlines. The men could not help but follow his logical sequences step by step, so that as a result our commitment to the support of God's program was greatly strengthened by this experience.

Your modest servant took a section of the Laymen's Workshop and also used the graphic medium to point out the loud noise which the world is making, yet is not telling us anything positive, and the fast speed with which the world is traveling, yet has no direction to give us. A person can be sure of only two factors: himself, and God. Certainly, it behooves him to form a serious working relationship with the only power and voice upon which he can depend.

In the business session, the Convention adopted a list of criteria for selecting a Layman of the Year, and authorized that copies of the same be freely circulated to all local Leagues. The body also endorsed the recommendation of the Executive Board that letters be sent in to headquarters telling of new Leagues which are organized and of Ambassadors' groups which are set up, and also reporting special activities which are being planned and conducted.

A total sum of \$1,076.37 was received from churches, unions, and the offering; while an additional amount of \$235.30 was realized from registration fees. This financial strength was a great increase over that of the previous session.

No Christian Worship Service can be complete without a sermon; and the message which was brought to us by the Reverend F. H. Goldsmith, Pastor of Bethel A. Baptist Church, Brevard, N. C., served in a most inspiring way the full extent of its purpose. The message was, "You must find the clue, in order to advance into responsible stewardship." Reverend Goldsmith's explanations were most enlightening, and his eloquence was most persuasive.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE CLERGYMAN

By C. C. Craig, Chairman
Benefit Commission Committee

The following is a current report from the Social Security Administration: As a clergyman, the earnings you have from the ministry are covered by social security unless you receive an exemption from the Internal Revenue Service. You can be exempted only if you are opposed because of conscience or religious principle to receiving social security benefits based on your services as a clergyman.

Like anyone else, a clergyman working under social security builds important insurance protection for himself and his family. If you die or become so severely disabled that you can't work for a year or more, social security can pay monthly checks to your family. When you retire, you and your wife can get monthly checks beginning at 62, and you'll have the hospital insurance protection of Medicare at 65.

SOCIAL SECURITY DEFINITIONS:

For social security purposes, "clergyman" means a duly ordained, commissioned or licensed minister, priest, rabbi, Christian Science practitioner, or member of a religious order who has not taken a vow of poverty. (Services of a mem-

ber of a religious order who has taken a vow of poverty are excluded from social security coverage.)

Services by a clergyman include the conduct of religious worship and the ministration of sacerdotal functions. They also include services in the control, conduct, and maintenance of a religious organization under the authority of a church denomination, or of an organization. For example, services of a teacher or administrator are included.

HOW TO FIGURE EARNINGS:

You figure your earnings as a clergyman as if you were self-employed, even though you may actually be an employee.

Add up all your income from the ministry, including your salary, stipends, fees, and honoraria. Also include the rental value of the parsonage (or rental allowance) as well as the value of meals and lodging you get, regardless of whether they are tax exempt.

Deduct the allowable expenses you have in connection with your ministry. The result is your net earnings from your services as a clergyman. The people at any Internal Revenue Service office can answer your questions about figuring your earnings.

HOW TO REPORT YOUR EARNINGS:

After any year in which your net earnings are \$400 or more, complete Form 1040 and Schedule SE. You can get these forms at any Internal Revenue Service office or at most banks and post offices.

Send your tax return along with your social security contribution to your Internal Revenue Service office by the April 15 deadline.

FIGURING YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTION:

Your social security contribution is figured on your earnings up to \$7,800 a year (\$9,000 starting with 1972). On earnings from the ministry and any other self-employment, your contribution rate is 7.5 percent for 1971 and 1972. It rises to 7.65 percent for 1973-75.

If you work in another job covered by social security, these wages and your self-employment earnings as a clergyman may total more than \$7,800. In this case, figure your social security self-employment contribution only on the difference between your wages and \$7,800.

Example: The Rev. James Phillips worked in a florist shop part time in 1970 and earned \$1,500 in wages in addition to \$7,300 from the ministry. He reports only \$6,300 of his earnings from the ministry for social security purposes.

IF YOU WISH TO APPLY FOR AN EXEMPTION:

If you're opposed by reason of conscience or religious principle to accepting social security checks based on your services as a clergyman, you can apply to the Internal Revenue Service for an exemption from social security coverage. Complete an application (Form 4361), which you can get at any Internal Revenue Service office, and send it to IRS. You'll get a copy back for your records.

An approved application exempts you from paying social security contributions only on your earnings as a clergyman. You continue to pay social security contributions on any other wages or self-employment earnings.

You can't withdraw or revoke an exemption once you get it. This means you can't later have your work as a clergyman covered by social security.

TIME LIMIT FOR REQUESTING EXEMPTION:

In general, you have until April 15 of the year following the second year in which you have self-employment net earnings of \$400 or more—any part of which you got as a clergyman—to apply for exemption. If April 15 falls on a weekend, you have until the next working day.

Example: The Rev. James Russell ordained in 1971, has income as a minister of more than \$400 in both 1971 and 1972. His earnings are covered starting with 1971 unless he applies for exemption by Monday, April 16, 1973. But if he does not apply by Monday, April 17, 1972, his self-employment contribution for 1971 is due by that date.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF EXEMPTION:

An approved exemption is effective for the first taxable year you have self-employment net earnings of \$400 or more, some part of which is from the ministry, and for all later years.

Example: The Rev. Henry Jason, ordained in 1970, has net earnings of more than \$400 from the ministry in 1970. His exemption is approved in February 1971 and applies to 1970 and all later years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For more information about income taxes, exemptions, or self-employment contributions, ask for a free copy of Publication 517, "Social Security for Clergymen and Religious Workers," at any Internal Revenue Service office. For information about the benefits social security pays, call any social security office. The people there will be glad to help you.

HOUSING PROJECT NAMED FOR BAPTIST MINISTER



A new 100-Units Public Housing Project recently completed in Lumberton has been named, "Turner Terrace," honoring the outstanding work and community leadership of Dr. E. B. Turner, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lumberton located at 504 West Second Street.

The housing project built by the Lumberton Housing Authority provides modern homes for 100 families. The project built on a 23-acre site was dedicated July 13th with special on-the site services arranged by the Lumberton Housing Authority and City Officials. Dr. Jack E. Mohr, Chairman of the Lumberton Housing Authority presided at the services and cited the local Baptist Minister for his long and dedicated leadership and work for community growth and betterment. At the dedication, special remarks and congratulations were made by Mayor Earl Musselwhite; Director Gerald B. Hill of the Housing Authority; Bishop James Bryant of the Holy Bible Church of God; Chairman, Arthur Shain of the Redevelopment Commission; The Honorable Richard Barnwell, Director—North Carolina Area Office H.U.D., Greensboro and the Honorable Sam Nobles, Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners.

The Honoree, Dr. E. B. Turner who serves as a member of the Lumberton City Council, (former Mayor-Pro-tem) serves also as a member of the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Turner, for more than a quarter of a century has served as Pastor of the First Baptist Church where his dynamic leadership has been

felt on the State and National levels of Baptist Circles.

He serves as Moderator of the Lumber River Baptist Association and Third Vice President of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

A graduate of Shaw University, Dr. Turner, serves now as Chairman of the Shaw Divinity School Trustee Board.

On hand as special guest for the dedication were: Wilber Tomberlin, Architect—Tomberlin Associates, Inc.; James Kirkpatrick, General Contractor, Kirkpatrick Associates; Ms. Cheryl Patton, Housing Representative, N. C. Area H.U.D. members of the Lumberton City Council, City Manager R. Gene McComb, City Attorney and State Senator Luther J. Britt, Jr.; Rep. J. J. Johnson; Clerk of Superior Court—Ben Floyd, Jr. and Judge John S. Gardner.

1974 ANNUAL SESSION

(Continued from page 1)

was another blessed time when the Congress listened to speeches made by several young persons who participated in the James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest, under the direction of Mrs. Hazel McLean and Mrs. Emaretta Felton.

As always, we listened attentively to the greetings, information and instructions from Dr. C. R. Edwards, Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Mrs. J. B. McLester, Dr. Corbin Cooper, Mr. Arthur Williams and Mr. Frank Marshall.

The 1975 Annual Session of the State Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Congress will be held with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. J. Ray Butler, Pastor, August 5-7, 1975.

The financial receipts for the session were \$11,258.43.

On behalf of the Congress officials, the General Baptist State Convention and for myself personally, I wish to express our deepest appreciation to each person who helped in any way to make this venture for Christ successful.

CORRECTION!

In the July issue of the Informer, we stated that Dr. J. Ray Butler's church, Shiloh, is located in Greensboro, North Carolina. However, it is located in WINSTON-SALEM. Our deepest apologies go to Dr. Butler and the good people of Shiloh.

SUPPORT UNIFIED PLAN

1973-1974



TOTAL BUDGETED — \$600,000.00

**GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA**

603 South Wilmington Street

Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

O. L. SHERRILL, Executive Secretary

UNITED PLAN TOTAL-BUDGET

If churches will contribute through the Unified Plan the budget can support the various causes as follows:

Christian Education	44%	\$177,760.00
Shaw University		
State Missions	30%	121,200.00
Foreign Mission	20%	80,800.00
Central Orphanage	6%	24,240.00
Designated Gifts		15,000.00
Transmittals		6,000.00
Woman's Convention		175,000.00
TOTAL BUDGET		\$600,000.00

Designated gifts reach certain individuals—
The Unified Plan reaches the whole world.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . . ?
(Matt. 28:19)

Send gifts to:

General Baptist State Convention of N. C., Inc.,
603 S. Wilmington Street—Raleigh, N. C. 27601

Fiscal year ends August 31.

SINGLETARY FAMILY PLEDGE SUPPORT TO SHAW UNIVERSITY AT REUNION

BLADENBORO — On Saturday, July 6, the descendants of the late Edward and Martha Singletary of Bladenboro gathered at the Bladenboro National Guard Armory for an "Old Time Family Reunion."

Approximately two hundred and fifty relatives and friends were welcomed by Mrs. J. P. Jones of Bladenboro as the reunion got under way. Mrs. Lois Davis, president of the reunion club, acted as mistress of ceremonies for the occasion.

Relatives and friends came from all across the country. They came by cars, buses, trains, and planes to enjoy this reunion. States represented were Florida, South and North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and Maine.

There was plenty of entertainment for all ages during the day. Dr. E. B. Turner of Lumberton was the guest speaker for the day. He gave the Singletary's and their descendants a challenge. He said, "A great family such as yours should do more than just eat, drink and be merry here today. You should do something as a family group that will go down in your Singletary History Books."

As a result of that challenge, \$215 was pledged by the Singletary Family to Shaw University.

Other guests that spoke briefly were Dr. A. J. Grove of Columbia, S. C.; Rev. O. H. Singletary of Farell, Pa.; and Rev. C. E. Johnson of Roseboro. Special music was rendered by Mrs. Ella Purdie Gray of Winston-Salem, and Horace Singletary of Brooklyn, N. Y.

A special gift was given to the oldest male and female descendant in the family. Mrs. Fannie L. Reaves and Rev. O. H. Singletary were the recipients.

HELP US PLEASE!!!

We need your help! When you or someone in your church moves, please send us the change of address at the earliest possible time. The Post Office sends us the changes when they have a forwarding address—but at a cost of ten cents (\$.10) each. You can quickly see that if we have nearly a thousand address changes in a year this amounts to quite a sum of money. You can help us save most of this by sending address changes promptly.

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT  TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, OCTOBER, 1974

NUMBER 10

ANNOUNCING

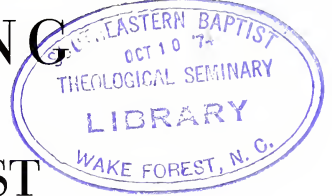
JOINT SESSIONS

GENERAL BAPTIST

AND

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTIONS

November 6-8, 1974
Memorial Auditorium
Raleigh, North Carolina



Theme: "For we are Laborers Together With God"

PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Presiding: Allen Bailey, President of Baptist
State Convention

6:45 Organ Prelude

7:00 Call to Order by both Convention
Presidents

Invocation—President of Woman's Home
and foreign Missionary Convention —
Mrs. J. B. McLester

Music and meditation
(combined choir from Raleigh churches
arranged by Charles Gatwood, Director
and C. W. Ward)

7:20 Welcome—Mayor Clarence Lightner,
Raleigh

Statement of Purpose:

—President of Baptist State Convention
—President of General Baptist State
Convention

7:40 Recognition of Convention officers and
appointment of Resolutions Committee
(by both Presidents)

Miscellaneous Business

8:00 Youth Presentation: "Baptist Youth
Laboring Together"

8:25 Hymn

Introduction of Speaker — John Lawrence

Music — Combined choir

Speaker — Samuel D. Proctor

Benediction

(continued on page 2)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

MRS. JOSEPHINE T. DUNN, SECRETARY
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

*Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist
Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Ra-
leigh, North Carolina 27601.*

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to
Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of
Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

PROGRAM (continued from page 1)

THURSDAY NIGHT

Presiding: C. R. Edwards, President of the
General Baptist Convention

- 7:00 Music and meditation (combined choir
from Meredith College, Shaw University,
and Singing Churchmen, arranged by
Gil-Smythe, Director, and Charles Gatewood)
- 7:15 Invocation — President of Woman's Miss-
ionary Union, Mrs. Gilmer Cross
- Hymn
- 7:20 "The World Needs Christ"
Africa—Reginald Wamara
Orient—Isamu Matsumoto
South America—Sophia Gomes
North America
- 8:00 Hymn
- 8:05 "Reaching Beyond Ourselves"
—O. L. Sherrill
—W. Perry Crouch
- 8:25 Hymn
- 8:30 Introduction of Speaker — E. B. Turner
Music — Combined Choir
Speaker — Theodore Adams
Benediction — Frank Marshall

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Presiding: D. R. Hedgley

- 2:00 Hymn
Invocation — H. L. Mitchell
- 2:10 Report from Joint Resolutions Committee
- 3:00 Introduction of Speaker — Tom Freeman
Solo — Alfred Newkirk
Voice — Owen Cooper
"The Christian Voice of the Nation"
Benediction — R. F. Hewitt

STOP! READ!! BE AWARE!!!

(Taken from the Constitution of the General Baptist
State Convention)

ARTICLE IX—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Associations

All Associations of this Convention shall enroll
with \$50.00.

Section 2. Districts

All Districts shall enroll with \$50.00.

Section 3. Churches

ALL CHURCHES with membership from 1-100
shall enroll with \$10.00.

101-250 shall enroll with \$15.00.

251-500 shall enroll with \$20.00.

501-750 shall enroll with \$25.00.

751-1000 shall enroll with \$30.00.

1001 and above shall enroll with \$35.00.

ARTICLE X—ENROLLMENT

Churches enrolling with \$10.00 shall be entitled
to two (2) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$15.00 shall be entitled
to three (3) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$20.00 shall be entitled
to four (4) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$25.00 shall be entitled
to five (5) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$30.00 shall be entitled
to six (6) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$35.00 shall be entitled
to seven (7) voting messengers.

Woman's Page----



MRS. HORNE RECEIVED NATIONAL APPOINTMENT

By President McLester

During the 73rd Annual Session of the National Woman's Convention Auxiliary to the N. B. C., U. S. A., Incorporated, which convened in Buffalo, New York, September 3-8, 1974, Mrs. M. A. Horne, executive secretary and treasurer of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, was appointed ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE.

Dr. Mary O. Ross, president of the National Woman's Convention, stated that Mrs. Horne's work in North Carolina speaks for her. She further stated "If Mrs. Horne can successfully handle approximately \$200,000.00 annually in North Carolina, she is the person in our National Convention to fill this office."

Mrs. Horne is the Associate with Mrs. Susie C. Holley, President of the Woman's State Convention of Florida.

BAPTIST WOMEN ACCEPT SOUL WINNING RECOMMENDATION

By Mrs. Thelma C. Horton, Chairman
Public Relations

The messengers to the Ninetieth Annual Session of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina, Auxiliary to the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., accepted a recommendation from their Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. M. A. Horne, Winston-Salem and Raleigh, "to put forth a united effort to win 200 souls to Christ in the year 1974-75." This recommendation was made in consideration of the fact that this Convention, which received national recognition for its outstanding stewardship, has exceeded its financial budget over a period of years. With only eleven months to operate in the 1973-74 Convention Year (due to a change in the annual meeting time), received \$178,094.50 for all objectives; exceeding last year (12 months) by a total of \$4,445.83. The major objectives are Home and Foreign Missions, J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly, Central Orphanage and Shaw University.

Some 2,000 messengers attended the five day meeting, July 29-August 2, at the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, Dr. David R. Hedgley, pastor. Youth and Young Adult sessions were held at the Hanes CME Church, Reverend James A. Hawkins, pastor and the Smith Chapel of the host church, respectively.

The Convention's president, Mrs. C. E. McLester, Durham, and Dr. C. R. Edwards, Fayetteville, President of the General Baptist State Convention, Inc., and the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, U. S. A., praised the messengers for outstanding performance for Christ. They also challenged them to take a serious look at the theme "His Message—Our Hope"; for herein lies the answer to many of the problems of our society.

The Hilton Inn was the setting for the Presidents' Banquet, honoring local and state presidents. More than 500 persons attended the gala affair with President McLester, presiding. Dr. Jerry Drayton, pastor of the New Bethel Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, spoke from the subject, "Christians in our Promiscuous Society." Describing society as "one who sees what it wants to see, and hears only what it wants to hear," he challenged the Christians to (1) help re-establish

**Subscribe Now
to the
BAPTIST INFORMER**

a moral standard, beginning in the home and church (2) reemphasize the need for regeneration and (3) provide an effective witness that not only saves, but keeps. Other program participants were Dr. and Mrs. David R. Hedgley, Mrs. Horne, Mrs. R. D. Lucas, Dr. Edwards, Miss Diane Bellamy, Mrs. Clara Hayes, David Lucas, the Reverend A. B. Mack and Mrs. Carolyn Blount. Mrs. McLester was presented a plaque for "Dedicated Service" by the President of the New Hope Woman's Auxiliary.

President McLester delivered a dynamic and informative message on Wednesday morning from the subject, "A Changeless Christ in a Changing World." She promised to consecrate her efforts on Grass Root Involvement, for it is the level upon which the work rest like "Hinges Upon the Doors." Describing Truth as Education in action, she said, "Truth must be a part of our life; it must be lived; and it must be recognized as knowledge of God and His Way or Pattern, as a necessity to life." It is a wonderful feeling to realize that you are a part of a live movement rooted in the Faith and united in Purpose. Hope is defined as desire joined with expectation of getting what is desired. It is also defined as trust and reliance, and a promise of the future. Without Hope, there can be no vision; we perish or become extinct. Today, I am calling upon each of you to an awareness of the need for action. As she talked about our Missionary Heritage, she said, "Our Woman's Convention of North Carolina, stands upon a platform, built upon that heritage. Today, we need a fresh appreciation for Jesus; we need new dedication of our lives; we need a revival of the "Old Time Religion; we need to continue our efforts to heighten the Spirits of mankind to restore belief in them and in ourselves; we need to use our visions and our hopes to make the Spirit of Missions a reality. She called upon the departments to "demonstrate what our faith affirms, what our Hope is and where our calling lies. We can get the world together, if we get man together. If we get ourselves together, we can act as the potter with his clay; we can mould and remound until it becomes acceptable, recognizing Our Father, as the source and the Creator."

Hearts were lifted and souls revived through singing, praying, meditation and the scriptures. Dr. J. Robert Bradley, Director of Music, National Baptist Convention, moved hearts to tears as he praised God through old familiar hymns and spirituals. The 6:00 A.M. Worship Hour led by Mdmes. E. S. Norris, Lena Singletary and Annie R. Bryant, also the Worship Meditations by Mrs. Georgia Thompson and the personal testimonies confirmed the belief that the Holy Spirit was in

the midst of them. The Woman's Convention Choir, under the leadership of Mrs. M. C. Grier, continued to stir souls with good singing. Mrs. J. M. Lucas is the Convention Organist. Other contributing choirs were Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, Greenville; Mt. Zion and Shiloh Baptist Churches, both of Winston-Salem.

Mrs. Eva M. Minter, Special Worker for the United American Freewill Baptist General Woman's Session, was guest participant for the "Symposium." Relating the convention theme to the Home and the Community, she challenged the messengers to obtain the Pentecostal Power; for Jesus is the only hope for the ills of our society. As Mrs. Eva H. Johnson, Salisbury, spoke on "Suffering and Reconciliation," she gave three reasons why Christians should reconcile themselves to suffering: (1) They know who they belong to (2) The purpose for their existence and (3) Where they are going. She challenged sinners to accept Jesus' Message of Hope. Mrs. Shirley Bullock, Rocky Mount, spoke on the theme "In a Confused World." She affirmed that we have a source of Hope today for the confused world; a message of Jesus that we can carry to the world, for He is our Message of Hope. Reverend B. R. Daniels, First Baptist, Lexington, declared that Jesus Christ is our Hope and His Message is the Hope of the World. Christians must continue to tell the world about Jesus and His Message of Hope.

Mrs. M. A. Horne presided over Thursday morning's "Convention at Work." Following the Union President's procession, A-1 Circles, Unions and Auxiliaries were recognized. Banners were presented to Shiloh, Winston-Salem, Forsyth County Union and the Roanoke Woman's Auxiliary for Best Stewardship Performance.

The Baptist Ministers' Wives of North Carolina organized in January with Mrs. J. J. Johnson as chairman, to promote better fellowship among North Carolina Baptist Ministers' Wives and to aid the Divinity School, Shaw University, presented a most stimulating and informative program. The panel discussion "Portraits of the Ideal Ministers Wife" was discussed by Mdmes. Mazie Stanley, E. L. Kirby, H. S. Diggs, Jamie James and Marion Butler. Mrs. Louise Gause rendered a solo.

The Young Adult Department boasting some 100 members in attendance experienced some changes in their administration. Mrs. Luella D. Edwards, who has served as Director since its inception, was elected as fourth vice president of the Convention; Mrs. Bronnie H. Daniels, Winston-Salem, the first Young Adult President and Associate Director, is now the Director. Young

Adult President Natalie Mitchell, Reidsville, spoke to the group with confidence and determination. From the subject, "Pressing Toward the Mark," she stated that she like Paul was striving for the Mark. She challenged her hearers to learn of Christ, then teach others that there is hope for the world. In seeking the answers to the many problems young adults most face, she admonished them that "faith would be the key to their existence." "This is the faith that has us pressed toward the mark of high calling of Christ Jesus."

Highlighting their session was their interpretation of the theme, "His Message—Our Hope." They dramatized the effectiveness of the Message of God in the life of the unsaved. From the topic, "Young Adults Influencing Youth to a Greater Commitment," they discussed the area of Stewardship, Behavior, Attitude and Dress. Young Adults were portrayed as young trees towering over the saplings (youth).

The Youth Department's session was styled as "a great Spiritual Movement." Miss Audrey Kee, Durham, declared that "God's Message was and is our only Hope in a confused and chaotic society." The President challenged her followers to be true witnesses and spread God's true message to other young people.

The Youth Concert, with narrations by President Kee and Vice President Elizabeth Brooks, Gastonia, lifted hearts and stirred souls, as it related God's Message of Hope. The J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly and the Shaw Contest, two major objectives of the youth, were directed by Mrs. Alfredia Brooks, Gastonia, and State Youth Supervisor, Mrs. Eva M. Pratt of Durham. Both winners were from Gaston County, Miss Jamie Murphy, Baptist Assembly, and Miss Maryland Gore, Shaw Contest. Each received a gift of money. Mrs. Lavine McGrier, State Consultant and Mrs. Pratt challenged the youth to return home and work harder for God.

Reverend and Mrs. John Daniels, Franklinton, received a very warm welcome upon their return from one year of service in Haiti, as superintendent of the Missions. They expressed their sincere appreciation for the opportunity to serve and urged the convention to continue to pray for the Mission. Dr. Bradley offered encouragement by singing "Hold to God's Unchanging Hands."

Progress reports were given by Reverend J. C. Harris, Statesville, and Mrs. Thelma C. Horton, Goldsboro, relative to the Youth Bible Camp and the Leadership Training Conference, held in June for the first time at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. The Assembly was dedicated in April for the purpose of worship, fellowship, study, re-

search and an example of democratic living and service.

President C. R. Edwards of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, and Mr. H. V. Bryant, Superintendent of Central Orphanage expressed appreciation on behalf of their respective group and related to the sisters many experiences that "made their hearts glad." Dr. Archie Hargraves, Shaw University, said, "Shaw is not about to die; the gal is tougher than all of us, because of the dedication, the commitment, the sacrifices of the Baptist People of North Carolina, who have poured so much of their souls, not just their money, but their whole selves in terms of their best support."

The Message of Jesus was shared through the preaching of the word. Reverend B. B. Felder, Sycamore Hill Baptist Church, Greenville, delivered the annual sermon. He urged the messengers to seek the answers to their problems, as the woman with an issue of blood, for Christ is the answer. Dr. John White, past president General Baptist State Convention, introduced Reverend C. R. Mosley, Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Belmont, as his son in the ministry. Reverend Mosley preached from the subject, "When Hope Is Dead, Hope On." He said, "One can not be a recipient of the Higher Hope, unless he has an abiding faith in God." "When one has faith in his Maker and in his Redeemer, then he has confidence that God will bring him out and make everything alright." Reverend H. S. Diggs, minister, Mayfield Baptist Church, Charlotte, asked the \$64,000 Question, "What Shall I Do With Jesus"? He told the group that they should live with Jesus. Reverend Preston Pendergrass, minister, Antioch Baptist Church, Charlotte, delivered the final sermon for the session, he, too, recommended Jesus as the answer to the problems of our world, both national and personal.

Total receipts received during the week for objectives \$72,289.17.

Thanks to Pastor Hedgley and the First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem for the superb hospitality, smiles and deep concern in making the 90th Annual Session a memorable one.

The One-Day Session will meet in January, 1975 at the Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh and the 1975 Annual Session will meet with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Greensboro, Dr. Otis Hairston, Minister.

As the 90th Annual Session came to a close, it was recommended that the three ninety year old messengers, attending the Convention, be honored by placing their photographs in the Baptist Informer, climaxing the Slogan "Key 9."

The honorees are Mdmes Lillian M. Gaylor, Alice Hamilton and Mary L. Kiser, all of Winston-Salem.

With the theme "His Message—Our Hope," as our principal idea this year, we adjourned after the installation of officers by Dr. David R. Hedgley and singing of the Convention Hymn "A Charge To Keep I Have."

Others attending the Convention were: President C. E. McLester, Mesdames Helen W. Falls, Pearl Cooper, Cora P. Reid, Ethel Bittle, Z. A. Burge, Maxwell Grier, Roxanna Pitts, J. A. Little, Lillian Pittman, Annie W. Johnson and others.



Corbin Cooper (center), Director of the Department of Cooperative Ministries with General Baptists, assists the West Chowan Association with a new ministry at the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Association Training Center at Rich Square. Others include (l-r) Bob Traywick, Missions Committee Chairman, Elizabeth Creecy, summer worker, J. A. Felton, Family Counselor, and Harold Rumfelt, Rich Square. Absent is Sherley Edwards, chairman of the Spiritual Development Committee.



Seated at the portable organ is Elizabeth Creecy, summer worker sponsored by both state conventions, singing with children at the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Association Training Center, Rich Square.

ANOTHER STATE MISSION PROJECT BEGUN BY BLACK AND WHITE BAPTISTS COOPERATING

A new and promising ministry was begun this summer in Rich Square with the cooperation of three associations and two state conventions.

Several years ago the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Association began a training center in Rich Square. Its purpose is to provide economic upgrading of migrant workers and other seasonal farmworkers. The program includes vocational training, general education, family development, counseling, job placement, etc.

Several people became concerned about providing spiritual development for the 50 families who would be housed at the center each year. Harold Rumfelt, pastor of the Rich Square church, shared such a concern with the missions committee of the West Chowan Association and the Department of Cooperative Ministries with General Baptists. Things began to develop as Bob Traywick, chairman of the mission committee and pastor of the Mars Hill church, added additional concern.

Two General Baptist associations participated to form the Spiritual Development Committee for Migrant Missions. They are the Northampton and West Roanoke associations. Sherley Edwards of Potecasi serves as chairman.

The West Chowan association voted in their 1973 annual session to establish a fund for purchasing a mobile unit for use as a chapel and other religious activities. Land for the unit has been provided for free use adjacent to the training center by Mr. Charlie Myers. With an assistance of \$2,000 from state missions the funds are available and the unit has been ordered and due to arrive in the near future. Total cost is estimated at \$6,500.

Through the Department of Cooperative Ministries, Elizabeth Creecy has been sponsored by the two state conventions as a summer worker. She is a student at Shaw University, Raleigh, and a resident of Rich Square. Her ministry includes youth activities, Bible teaching, and making surveys for assisting with planning future activities. She serves under the supervision of J. A. Felton, a Baptist preacher who is a family counselor with the training center.

PROGRAM
of the
25th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
LAYMEN'S LEAGUE CONVENTION
and the
107th ANNUAL SESSION
of the
GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION
OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

NOVEMBER 6-8, 1974

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

101 South Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina
C. W. Ward, Pastor

LAYMEN'S PROGRAM

Tuesday, November 5, 1974 — Afternoon

Frank H. Marshall, Presiding

- 12:00 Registration
1:00 Executive Board Meeting
2:00 Session Opens—Devotions led by John McQueen and James Grier
2:15 Welcome, Laymen of Host Church
Response, Ernest Dansby
2:30 Workshop Based on the Convention
Theme: "For We Are Labourers Together With God."
Leaders:
Rochelle Vann
O. A. Dupree
4:30 Announcements and Adjournment

Evening

Leroy James, Presiding

- 7:00 Devotions led by John McQueen and James Grier
7:15 Ambassador Highlights: Wilch Caldwell
James Lawrence
Zeno Borders
7:45 Appointment of Committees
8:00 Brotherhood Department of Baptist State Convention, J. Edwin Bullock
8:15 Sermon, W. E. Lytle
9:00 Announcements and Adjournment

Wednesday, November 6

John McQueen, Presiding

- 7:30 Breakfast
8:00 Committee Meetings
9:00 Devotions led by James Grier
9:15 Workshop Continued
Leaders:
E. B. Turner
Henry D. Cooper

- 10:50 Hymn Time: S. D. Perry
11:00 President's Address: Frank H. Marshall
11:45 Announcements and Adjournment

Wednesday Afternoon

- 1:00 Executive Committee Meeting
2:00 General Board Meeting
3:00 The General Convention—Our Objectives
—S. A. Raper
3:30 Sermon—D. R. Hedgley
Benediction

Thursday Morning, November 7

- 7:30 Breakfast
9:00 Devotion—Charles Tyner, W. K. Mitchell
9:15 Enrollment
9:30 Theme: "We Are Laborers Together With God"—R. B. Styles
10:00 Reports:
General Board J. Ray Butler
Executive Secretary O. L. Sherrill
Department of Christian Leo Williams
Cooperative Ministry Corbin Cooper
Baptist Informer
Trustees T. A. Watkins
Laymen's League Frank Marshall
Usher's Convention
Woman's Convention J. B. McLester
Sunday School Convention J. W. Martin
B. T. U. Convention Clifton Stone
Congregational Singing
11:00 The Annual Address of the President

Thursday Afternoon

- 1:15 Devotion—D. U. Cooper, C. H. Brown
Theme: "We Are Laborers Together With God"—A. J. Johnson
1:45 Reading and Adoption of Proposed Changes in Constitution
2:00 Nomination Committee
2:15 Greetings:
Central Orphanage . . . H. V. Bryant
Lott Carey Foreign Mission . . . W. C. Somerville
Shaw University . . . J. Archie Hargraves
3:00 Sermon—J. B. Humphrey

Friday Morning, November 8

- 7:30 Breakfast
9:00 Devotion—J. C. Chance, Felix Bailey, Jr.
9:15 Shaw Divinity School
9:45 Reports:
Historian . . . W. B. Lewis
Statistician . . . Frank Marshall
Standing Committees
Fraternal Greetings
Sermon—Charles Bullock
Adjournment

MOTEL RATES

for ANNUAL SESSION Raleigh, N. C.

SIR WALTER	SINGLES	DOUBLES
400 Fayetteville St.	\$12.00	\$18.00
Phone: 832-7711	\$16.00—double with twin beds	

HOLIDAY INN	Singles	Doubles
320 Hillsborough St.	\$18.00	\$23.00
Phone: 832-0501		

GOLDEN TOWN	Singles
309 Hillsborough Street	1 person —\$14.25
Phone: 833-5771	2 persons—\$17.00

RALEIGH CABANA	Singles	Doubles
514 S. Salisbury Street	1 person —\$10.00 plus tax	
Phone: 828-0311	2 persons—\$14.00 plus tax	

ECONO TRAVEL MOTOR	
Oak Park	1 person —\$ 9.50 plus tax
Phone: 782-3201	2 persons—\$13.25 plus tax
	3 and 4 in room—\$16.37 plus tax

LEMON TREE INN	
2200 Hillsborough Street	Singles \$17.00 plus tax
Phone: 828-9091	Doubles \$23.00 plus tax

JOURNEY'S END	Singles:	Doubles:
300 N. Dawson	1 person \$14.56	2 persons \$20.80
Phone: 828-9081	2 persons \$17.68	4 persons \$26.00

ALL RESERVATIONS SHOULD BE MADE DIRECTLY TO THE MOTEL IN THE NAME OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

NOV 4 1974

SEMINARY LIBRARY

Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, NOVEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 11

PREVIEWING OUR JOINT AND ANNUAL SESSIONS

NOVEMBER 6-8, 1974

Theme: "For we are Laborers Together With God"

JOINT SESSION—MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM, RALEIGH, N. C.

FEATURES...

Dynamic Speakers	Samuel D. Proctor Theodore Adams Owen Cooper
Inspiring Music.....	Combined Choir from Raleigh churches Combined Choir from Meredith College, Shaw University and Singing Churchmen Solo by Mrs. Hortense Fleming
Enlightening Messengers.....	Reginald Kamara Isamu Matsumoto Sophia Gomes
Distinguished Presidents.....	C. R. Edwards Allen Bailey
And Executive Secretaries.....	W. Perry Crouch O. L. Sherrill

AND OUR MOST HONORABLE MAYOR CLARENCE LIGHTNER

(continued on page 2)

THE BAPTIST INFORMER

ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

MRS. JOSEPHINE T. DUNN, SECRETARY
C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

*Address all communications for publication and inquiry to Baptist
Informer, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Ra-
leigh, North Carolina 27601.*

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General Convention Roster

C. R. Edwards, *President*
D. R. Hedgley, *Vice-President At Large*
J. J. Johnson, *1st Vice-President*
C. M. Creecy, *2nd Vice-President*
E. B. Turner, *3rd Vice-President*
J. C. Harris, *4th Vice-President*
Coleman W. Kerry, *Recording Secretary*
O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
C. C. Craig, *Assistant to
Executive Secretary*
J. H. Ferguson, *Assistant Secretary*
Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of
Christian Education*
W. B. Lewis, *Historian*
Frank Marshall, *Statistician*

ANNUAL SESSION, GENERAL BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION AND LAYMEN'S LEAGUE

First Baptist Church, 603 S. Wilmington Street
Raleigh, North Carolina

HIGHLIGHTS

WORKSHOPS.....	Rochelle Vann and O. A. Dupree E. B. Turner and Henry Cooper
REPORTS.....	General Board, Executive Secretary, Department of Christian Education, Cooperative Ministry, Baptist Informer, Trustees, Laymen's League, Ushers Convention, Woman's Convention, Sunday School Convention, and B.T.U. Convention; Historian, Statistician
Sermons.....	W. E. Lytle, D. R. Hedgley, J. B. Humphrey, Charles Bullock

AND the Election of a new PRESIDENT are among the events that will take place. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

OUR PRESIDENT SPEAKS TO US...

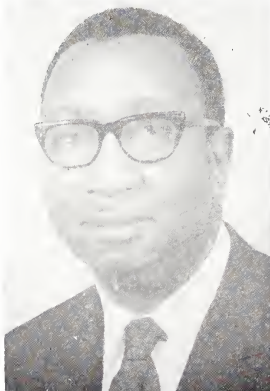
My Brothers and Sisters of the Convention,

Words cannot express how grateful I am for your support during my tenure in office. The general spirit of the Convention has been one of unity.

The fact that I shall relinquish the office of the Presidency does not mean that I shall in any way lessen my zeal for the work. I pledge my full support to my successor.

Thanks to Dr. O. L. Sherrill, our Executive Secretary and his staff for their help and cooperation.

I shall look forward to seeing you in Raleigh at the First Baptist Church at our Annual Session November 6-8, 1974.



Woman's Page----

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY OBSERVES FELLOWSHIP DAY

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Middle District Union (Old Eastern Missionary Baptist Association) held its Third Annual Fellowship Day, Friday, September 28, 1974, meeting at Providence Baptist Church, Robersonville, N. C., Mrs. Myrtle Wilson, President, Rev. W. T. Taylor, Pastor.

Mrs. Zephia Gatlin, Secretary, led the topic on "Fellowship." Mrs. Magdaw Grimes rendered the reading "What Have We Done Today?" Rev. John Bee Moore, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Weldon, N. C., rendered the message, with the theme: "Are You In Fellowship With God" with the subject "Where Shall Your Soul Spend Eternity?" His wife, Mrs. Rebecca E. Moore, rendered two special solos, "I'll Go" and "I'm Too Close," accompanied by Mrs. Thelma Evans, Pianist. Afterwards, the Hospitality and Kitchen Committee, which consisted of Mrs. John T. Davis, Mrs. Annie Best, and Mrs. Hattie Clark, served a delicious dinner.

Mrs. Roxie Moore, President Emeritus, was present. Now 85 years of age, she has been with the Association since the age of 15. The occasion was at the beginning of the three day session of the Middle District Union, Rev. W. S. Wilson, Moderator.

APPRECIATION SERVICE HELD — PLAQUE RECEIVED

The East End Neighborhood Council held a special appreciation service for Dr. and Mrs. A. D. Moseley on Tuesday, September 10, 1974, 7:30 p.m., at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church on Dowd Street, Durham, N. C.

Approximately 150 persons gathered at the sanctuary to entertain the pastor and his wife for outstanding services rendered to the East End Neighborhood. During the course of the evening a plaque was awarded to Reverend Moseley.

An evening of songs and testimonies were given with Mrs. Josephine Turner presiding and the Reverend Grady Davis, pastor of Union Baptist Church, Durham, N. C., speaking.

Reverend Davis pointed to Reverend Moseley as a Moses of today—A Great Servant of God.

Welcome address presented by Miss C. Spearman. Testimonials were presented from The Jesus House of Prayer, Union Baptist Church, Mount Gilead Baptist Church and friends. Music for the occasion was furnished by the Mount Gilead

Gospel Chorus and the Helping Hand Missionary Circle of Union Baptist Church. Mesdames E. Short and Luna Holman also participated.

A reception was held following the ceremony in the Fellowship Hall of the church.



These three (3) Ninety (90) Year old members climaxed the Slogan "Key 9" as the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina convened in its 90th Annual Session at the First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Standing L-R: Mesdames Lillian Gaylor, First Baptist Church, Mary E. Kiser, Piney Grove Baptist Church and Alice Hamilton, Mount Zion Baptist Church. All three hail from Winston-Salem.

Congratulation from the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina.

THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS...

Let us now give THANKS unto the Lord our God Eternal King. Now let us PRAISE His name forever more. For He has made the way and will guide us day by day, in the future as he did before.

If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes, and search for them with my clumsy fingers, and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it, and how would it draw to itself the almost invisible particles by the mere power of attraction. The unthankful heart, like my finger in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as magnet finds the iron, so it will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessings, only the iron in God's sand is gold!—H. W. Beecher

WHAT'S HAPPENING ACROSS THE STATE

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE SLATED

First Baptist Church, Statesville, North Carolina, will observe its 100th Birthday beginning September 29 and continuing through October 27. All former members and friends are invited, according to the pastor, Rev. Jordan C. Harris.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH CENTENNIAL EVENTS WEEKLY PROGRAM

September 29 — 4-6 P.M.
CENTENNIAL FELLOWSHIP HOUR
Senior Members

October 3 — 7:30 P.M.
100 YEARS OF PROGRESS
Deacons

October 6 — 7:30 P.M.
100 YEARS OF MUSIC
Choirs

October 8 — 7:30 P.M.
A CENTURY OF INVOLVEMENT
Youth

October 15 — 7:30 P.M.
100 YEARS TOGETHER WITH CHRIST
Missionary Circles

October 21 — 7:30 P.M.
RECREATION
Sunday School, B.T.U., and Ushers

SUNDAY SERVICES

October 13 — 7:30 P.M.
Rev. J. C. Huneycutt, Pastor
Western Avenue Baptist Church
Statesville, North Carolina

October 20 — 3:00 P.M.
Rev. W. C. Hay, Pastor
Gallilee Baptist Church
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

HOMECOMING
October 27 — 3:00 P.M.
Dr. J. Ray Butler, Pastor
Shiloh Baptist Church
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

MARS HILL COLLEGE HONORS DR. O. L. SHERRILL

Tuesday, October 8, 1974, marked a great day in the life of Dr. Otha Lee Sherrill, as he was invited to Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, North Carolina to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humanities and to be the speaker for the Founders' Day Convocation of that institution. The occasion was well attended by friends of the college and friends of Dr. Sherrill. The honoree, who has served as Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the General Baptist State Convention since 1947, spoke from a subject "The Big Ms on Mars Hill." "The first M stands for Man; the second M stands for Morality; the third M stands for Means; and the fourth M stands for Management," said the speaker, as he likened the inscriptions to those seen by the Apostle Paul many years ago on Mars Hill in Athens. However, he stated, "this Mars Hill has its God in the proper perspective."

The General Baptist Family of North Carolina extends its congratulations to our Executive Secretary upon an honor well earned.

IF ROSES COULD TALK

If roses could talk, they would not complain,

But give thanks to God, for the dew and the rain;

Even when the petals fall, and hide their glee

They would thank God that they had bloomed, for you and me.

If roses could talk, they would not squawk,

But use their voices, to warn fowl of the hawks.

You see, roses know, the joy of living;

So they spend their lives, in pleasure giving.

If roses could talk, to the sun they would say,

We must work together, nature planned it that way.

Our beauty the world needs, both day and night;

And when we get sun, we grow with all our might.

If roses could talk, to the wind they would say,

Come blow my sweet fragrance, to fight pollution today;

For man is going to ruin this beautiful land,

Which the heavenly Father planted with His own hand.

If roses could talk, to mortal men they would say,

Stop fighting and killing each other that way;

Like us roses, you were created, to show forth

God's glory,

So start loving your neighbor, and telling the story.

M. Philip McCleave
January, 1973

FOR WE ARE LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD

The General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, Inc. and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will meet in joint sessions at the Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh, Wednesday, November 6, 7:00 P.M., Thursday, November 7, 7:00 P.M., and Friday, November 8, 2:00 P.M. The theme for the occasion is very fitting and timely for the decade of the seventies: "For We Are Laborers Together With God." Each convention is over one hundred years old. The Baptist State Convention was founded in 1830 at Greenville, North Carolina and the General Baptist State Convention was founded in 1867 at Goldsboro. It was the main desire of each group of organizers, to greater prosecute the work of Kingdom building. However, much was left undone in the process of separate pursuits. In more recent years the leaders of each convention have seen our Christian duties defined in a greater concept of unity between the two Major Baptist Bodies in the State. These joint sessions represent one of the many efforts which are being put forth to make "Laboring Together With God" a reality.

On Wednesday night, the session will be called to order by both Conventions' Presidents, the invocation will be said by the President of Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention, music will be rendered by combined choirs from Raleigh Churches, the Mayor of Raleigh will extend welcome, the Baptist youth will make a presentation and the guest speaker will be Dr. Theodore Adams.

On Thursday night, combined choirs from Shaw University, Meredith College and Singing Churchmen will render music; the invocation will be said by the President of Woman's Missionary Union; a presentation, "The World Needs Christ," will be made by representatives from Africa, the Orient, South America, and North America; the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Baptist State Convention and the Executive Secretary-Treasurer, General Baptist State Convention, will speak from the subject "Reaching Beyond Ourselves." The main speaker for the evening will be Dr. Samuel D. Proctor.

The session on Friday afternoon will be highlighted with a report from the Joint Resolution Committee and a message delivered by Tom Freeman.

The separate sessions of the Laymen's League Convention and the General Baptist State Convention will meet with the First Baptist Church, 101 South Wilmington Street, Raleigh, Dr. C. W. Ward, pastor, beginning Tuesday afternoon, No-

vember 5 and ending Friday noon, November 8. These sessions are to be highlighted with worship, workshops, messages, music, greetings, giving, reports, and recreation.

The Registration Committee urges each Association and each church to preregister with the appropriate finance and the names of messengers. The Executive Secretary and Convention officials are asking representatives of the entire constituency of the General Baptist State Convention to please be present, participate, and bring or send a liberal contribution for the Cause.

STOP! READ!! BE AWARE!!!

(Taken from the Constitution of the General Baptist State Convention)

ARTICLE IX—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Associations

All Associations of this Convention shall enroll with \$50.00.

Section 2. Districts

All Districts shall enroll with \$50.00.

Section 3. Churches

ALL CHURCHES with membership from 1-100 shall enroll with \$10.00.

101-250 shall enroll with \$15.00.

251-500 shall enroll with \$20.00.

501-750 shall enroll with \$25.00.

751-1000 shall enroll with \$30.00.

1001 and above shall enroll with \$35.00.

ARTICLE X—ENROLLMENT

Churches enrolling with \$10.00 shall be entitled to two (2) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$15.00 shall be entitled to three (3) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$20.00 shall be entitled to four (4) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$25.00 shall be entitled to five (5) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$30.00 shall be entitled to six (6) voting messengers.

Churches enrolling with \$35.00 shall be entitled to seven (7) voting messengers.

THE FIVE FUNCTIONS OF A CHURCH

1. To worship (Rom. 15:5-6; Acts 17:23; Ps. 95:1-8; John 4:23-24)
2. To witness (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 9:60; Acts 10:43; Rom. 10:13-15; 2 Tim. 4:2)
3. To educate (1 Cor. 12:28-29; Eph. 4:11-15; Heb. 5:12-14; Matt. 11:28-30; John 8:31-32)
4. To minister (Matt. 20:26-28; Matt. 25:42-46)
5. To apply (Jas. 1:22)

An explanation of each of the five functions:

1. To worship is to be aware of and to respond favorably to the presence of God. There are many ways in which a church may worship God. Simply reading the Scriptures provides a worship experience for many persons.
2. To witness is to share the gospel. This includes preaching, teaching, witnessing, and sending out missionaries. It encompasses everything that is done to confront unbelievers with the fact that God has provided them with salvation through Jesus Christ.
3. To educate is to teach persons what God has done for them through Jesus Christ, and to train believers to fulfill all of the functions of a church.
4. To minister is to follow the example of Jesus in caring for those who have physical and spiritual needs. This includes ministering to the sick, hungry, lonely, and disturbed.
5. To apply means the practical application of Christian principles in all the issues of everyday life. Such application of Christian truth determines one's vote for public officials, conduct in business, relationship to his family, and standards of public and private morality.

THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School is the Bible teaching agency of the church. Bible teaching in the Sunday School and Bible preaching by the pastor provide the foundation upon which everything else in the church program is built. Every church that is seriously committed to doing the Lord's will on earth will provide for a program of Bible teaching. Every person and every organization in the church should support the Bible teaching program.

The basic tasks suggested for the Sunday School are as follows:

1. Teach the biblical revelation.

The Sunday School's task of teaching the biblical revelation is its assignment to guide persons in seeking with growing interest and devotion to understand God's revelation through his Word, and in responding to him in faith, love, and obedience.

2. Reach persons for Christ and church membership.

The Sunday School task of reaching people for Christ and the church is its assignment to lead the church to draw all persons into a full relationship with Christ and the church. This involves the establishing and maintaining of a relationship with the prospect. In most instances, the relationship will lead to enrollment in the Bible teaching program first of all. Through Bible study and Christian concern, the prospect will be led to a full relationship with Christ and the church.

3. Perform the functions of the church within its constituency.

The Sunday School task of leading all members to worship is its assignment to involve all church members as individuals and/or groups in an abiding consciousness of God's presence, expressed in loving, obedient response to Him. Bible study is preparation for worship, and worship should be an outgrowth of Bible study.

The Sunday School task of leading all church members to witness is its assignment to involve all church members in sharing perennially their experiences with Christ. The study of the biblical revelation should result in experiences with Christ which may be shared. The biblical teachings concerning witnessing are a part of the Sunday School course of study, and, if effectively taught, should result in witnessing.

The Sunday School task of leading all church members to minister is its assignment to involve members in responding perennially in Jesus' name to the needs of persons. A study of the Bible discloses the worth of a person in the eyes of God. Jesus' teachings and example, as well as the work of the early church, give us further evidence of the importance of ministering to the physical, social, emotional, and mental, as well as the spiritual needs of persons. When these acts are performed in the name of Jesus, they become Christian ministry.

The Sunday School task of leading all members to learn is its assignment to lead all members to become disciplined learners in areas through which their relationship with Christ may be enriched and their service for Him

made more effective. Appropriate learnings may involve individual study, participation in learning opportunities sponsored by the Sunday School or other church organizations, or, in some instances, by other groups. Learning must not be equated with membership in any organization. The desire for learning may—and often should—lead to participation in structured learning situations, but such participation must be viewed as a means rather than an end. In leading members to apply Christian principles to daily life, the Sunday School seeks to lead members to relate to any issue which needs a positive Christian influence. Needs may not come at times when the lesson content is directly related. Nevertheless, the Bible study leader should take the initiative. There must be a continuous effort to create an awareness of the need for applying Christian principles to all issues of life on an individual basis.

4. Provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and the denomination.

The Sunday School organization is ideal for channeling information in that it reaches the largest number of people; it is age-graded, and is broken down into small units for easy communication. Through the channeling of appropriate information, the Sunday School can help the church develop a well-informed, responsive constituency.

PLANNING A VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL

Long range planning is the key to a successful Vacation Church School. Planning should begin some months before the school is to be held.

Some values of V.C.S. are; fellowship, evangelism, training of Christian leadership and Christian growth. Goals which might be set in planning are growth in relation to God, to Jesus, the church, the Bible and self.

In planning the V.C.S. either a committee of the church board of Christian Education should serve or special committees should be selected which will represent all church groups and age groups participating. The committee as a whole or divided into sub-committees will need to consider (1) finance, (2) promotion, publicity and registration, (3) staff and its preparation, (4) curriculum, (5) equipment, place and time of meeting and the problem of transportation.

Further planning necessitates securing leaders, establishing enterprises, sessions, or a clinic to train the staff. Training may include leadership

courses, demonstrations, observations, training schools, institutes or clinics, laboratory training schools, coaching conferences for leaders of leaders, courses offered by certain colleges and seminaries or church courses offered during the church school hour of the BTU hour. Relative to training, the V.C.S. staff in the local church study the needs of the workers, plan for staff meetings before, during and after the school.

In choosing and using curriculum materials, first study text available. Moreover, in choosing a text, consider the pupils—their experiences, interests and needs, possible leadership and doctrines. Getting ready to teach includes, getting acquainted with the text, developing plans, making a session plan, preparing all needed materials and securing supplementary materials, months prior to the school.

Planning a V.C.S. daily schedule allots time for Bible study, recreation, activities, experiences, things to make, projects and worship whereas a total calendar for the V.C.S. includes enrollment dates, dates for special events, staff meetings, etc. Department organization will be set at an early time. Before the first day of the V.C.S., time should be designated for arranging of rooms, equipment, materials and transportation.

V.C.S. will need financial support and should be included in the annual church budget. Publicizing the V.C.S. mean making the school known to the public through oral, printed and audio visual media.

Advance planning will mean that the daily schedule is followed on the first day of the V.C.S. as well as succeeding days of the school.

Closing the school includes a closing program, evaluating the school and conserving the values. Boys and girls can help in evaluating the school as well as the staff.

The V.C.S. is an integral part of the total educational program of the church. Thus, planning and preparation for the V.C.S. should be made with full knowledge of the church program.

THE VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL RECOMMENDS THE FOLLOWING:

1. That each church have a V.C.S. training clinic during the months of January, February or March of each year.
2. That we include adult V.C.S. classes and young people's or young adult classes in our vacation church schools.

(continued on page 8)

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

ARTICLE V—OFFICERS

Present:

Section 1. Election of Officers

All officers of this Convention and its Auxiliaries shall be elected annually with the exception of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer. (The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for an indefinite period of time.) All officers shall be elected to serve not more than four (4) consecutive years in office without having vacated that office for at least one (1) year.

Proposed Change:

Section 1. Election of Officers

All officers of this Convention and its Auxiliaries shall be elected annually with the exception of the Executive Secretary-Treasurer. (The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected for an indefinite period of time.) All officers shall be elected to serve not more than two (2) consecutive years in office without having vacated that office for at least one (1) year.

Present:

Section 2. Tenure of Office

Tenure of office shall consist of four (4) one (1) year consecutive terms and shall expire at the end of the fourth (4th) year in office.

Proposed Change:

Section 2. Tenure of Office

Tenure of office shall consist of two (2) one (1) year consecutive terms and shall expire at the end of the second (2nd) year in office.

ARTICLE VII—THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Present:

The Executive Committee shall be made up of thirty (30) members; three (3) from the Woman's Auxiliary, two (2) each from the other three (3) Auxiliaries and twenty-one (21) from the Convention.

Proposed Change:

The Executive Committee shall be made up of thirty (30) members; three (3) from the Woman's Auxiliary, two (2) each from the other three (3) Auxiliaries and twenty-one (21) from the Convention. One-third (1/3) of the membership of the Executive Committee shall expire every 3 years.

Present:

The Executive Committee shall be made up of thirty (30) members; three (3) from the Woman's Auxiliary, two (2) each from the other three (3) Auxiliaries and twenty-one (21) from the Convention.

Proposed Change:

The Executive Committee shall be made up of forty (40) members; three (3) from the Woman's Auxiliary, two (2) each from the other three (3) Auxiliaries, and thirty-one (31) from the Convention. One-fourth (1/4) of the membership of the Executive Committee shall expire every four (4) years.

Meetings:

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention shall meet annually following the fourth (4th) Sunday in July except in the year of the All Baptist Assembly.

PLANNING A VACATION (continued from page 7)

3. That V.C.S. literature be in keeping with our Baptist Doctrines.
4. That we place our V.C.S. order with the Baptist Supply Store during the months of December or January prior to the V.C.S.
5. That we plan our V.C.S. to be a family affair.

ORGANIZING THE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

1. Departments.

The Vacation Bible School is organized by departments. There should be a minimum of five departments: Nursery (age 3), Beginner (4-5), Primary (6-7-8), Junior (9-12), and Intermediate (13-16). Special attention should be given to the Nursery and Intermediate departments. Since Vacation Bible School is a family affair. Young people and adults should be encouraged to participate.

2. Workers.

The Principal of the Vacation Bible School is the director of the whole school.

The Assistant to the Principal.

The General Secretary is responsible for collecting and compiling the records.

The Department Superintendents.

The Teachers.

Group Leaders.

Department Secretaries.

Other Workers.

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST

DEC 12 1974

SEMINARY LIBRARY

Southeastern Baptist Theological
Seminary Library
Wake Forest, N. C. 27587

The Baptist Informer

LIGHT



TRUTH

Official Organ of the General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Inc.
Voice of 350,000 Baptists

VOLUME 96

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, DECEMBER, 1974

NUMBER 12

Greetings From Your Friends At Baptist Headquarters

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16

One of the real joys of the Holiday Season is the opportunity to revive our lives through sharing with the wonder of wonders — The wonderful Christ. He imparts to the human heart the greatest gift — the spirit of an indefinable dimension — the "stuff" for living.

O. L. Sherrill

C. C. Craig

Mrs. M. W. Dunn

Mrs. Josephine Dunn

Leo Williams

Mrs. Captola Latta

Miss Ann LeVern Perry

THE BAPTIST INFORMER
ORGAN OF THE GENERAL BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

STAFF

LEO WILLIAMS, JR., *Acting Editor*
 MISS LEVERN PERRY, *Secretary*
 C. W. WARD OTIS HAIRSTON
 H. L. MITCHELL S. A. RAPER
 COLEMAN W. KERRY, *Promotional Director*

Published the fifteenth of each month at Raleigh, North Carolina. Second Class
 Paid at Raleigh, North Carolina.

Address all communications for publication and inquiry to *Baptist Informer*, Baptist Headquarters, 603 S. Wilmington Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27601.

SUBSCRIPTION \$2.50 PER YEAR

General
Convention Roster

J. J. Johnson, *President*
 E. B. Turner, *Vice-President at Large*
 J. C. Harris, *1st Vice-President*
 J. B. Humphrey, *2nd Vice-President*
 J. R. Manley, *3rd Vice-President*
 S. A. Raper, *4th Vice-President*
 W. B. Lewis, *Recording Secretary*
 R. T. Gilchrist, *Assistant Recording Secretary*
 O. L. Sherrill, *Executive Secretary*
 C. C. Craig, *Assistant to Executive Secretary*
 Leo Williams, Jr., *Director of Christian Education*
 Elbert Lee, *Historian*
 A. R. Smith, *Statistician*



Just as we are celebrating the birth of Christ this last month of the year, we also have another choice person on our staff who was born on December 18 in Pollocksville, North Carolina. He attended Jones County Training School, Pollocksville and Shaw University, Raleigh.

He pastored several churches in his home area and presently, serves as the Director of Christian Education, General Baptist State Convention. Without doubt, he has been seen conducting workshops, institutes and spreading the good news of Jesus.

We are grateful to God for sending His Son, Jesus and Reverend Leo Williams.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY REVEREND WILLIAMS!

DEVOUT CHURCHMAN
DECEASE

Mr. Jacob Long, Sr. passed away at his home in New Bern, (James City), Saturday, October 12. In his early youth, he united with the Pilgrim Chapel Missionary Baptist Church where he served in various capacities and was chairman of Deacons until death. He was married to Miss Eva Watson Boyd and six children were born to their union. He was well known throughout North Carolina and many other areas of the country. Deacon Long was a devout churchman who touched the lives of many in his church community as well as the strangers within his gates. He shall be remembered as a "Ministers' Friend."

SUBSCRIBE TO THE BAPTIST INFORMER

Be Informed — Know Your Baptist Family

Subscription Rates — \$2.50 per year

Send your subscription NOW to the

BAPTIST INFORMER

603 S. Wilmington Street
 Raleigh, North Carolina 27601

Woman's Page----



MRS. BRONNIE H. DANIELS
YOUNG ADULT DIRECTOR

Dear Young Adults:

Voices are echoing throughout the state that the 10th Annual Session of the Young Adult Department was filled with **unification, inspiration and dedication.** The attendance was great and many new faces helped to fill Smith Chapel at First Baptist Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. There were registered eighty-six (86) Young Adults and twenty-one (21) directors.

This session also brought about a change in Directorship. God in His definite wisdom granted us the service of our past director, Mrs. Luella D. Edwards, and by His ever guiding hand, she directed us to a high plateau in the work of the department. Even though she is no longer our director, the fruits of her labor will carry us on.

"Lest we forget," It was the inspired vision of Mrs. Berthenia D. Horne that gave birth to this Department, and to the appointment of Mrs. Edwards. "Thank God for that vision."

Our objectives remain the same. We ask that you increase your giving **financially, physically and spiritually.** Let us adhere to the spiritual request by our Executive Secretary. **Let there be many Young Adults among the number of souls won to Christ.** We know that it can and will be done. Let us also continue to send all quarterly reports in on time.

Young Adults and Directors do not forget to purchase your **Life Membership Pins.** We want to see them being worn at all of our sessions.

One last request is that we remain consistent in our attendance at our Mid-Year Sessions, Leadership Training Conference and Annual Sessions. Our President, Miss Natalie Mitchell and all officers are expecting to see you and are depending upon you.

Young Adults, let us live, work and pray that this department will continue to grow and be productive.

"So built we the wall—For the people had a mind to work." Nehemiah 4:6

Yours for a greater department,
Bronnie H. Daniels, Director

MIDYEAR SESSION

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1975
RALEIGH MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA
HOURS: 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

We are calling on all **Organizations, Churches, Pastors and Layworkers** to please bring or send a Big Donation for our Baptist Assembly.

BUILDING PROGRAM #2

We have begun our second Building Program at the J. J. Johnson Baptist Assembly. We Need Finance. In Order To Pay As We Build. Many more campers will attend in June and July 1975. Therefore, we need adequate sleeping space for our young people. **The Contractor is at work now Building another Dormitory.**

Consult your pastor, your Youth and Young Adult Leaders. Remember our other objectives. We need the prayers, cooperation and love of the Baptist Family of North Carolina.

IMPORTANT PLEASE SPIRITUAL BUDGET: 200 SOULS TO CHRIST

Your Executive Secretary recommended that Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of North Carolina put forth a United

Effort to Win 200 Souls To Christ during the 1974-75 Convention year. The Spiritual Budget to go hand in hand with the Financial Budget of our Convention. (Accepted)

- (a) Please send name and address of persons won to Christ to your Woman's State Convention Office.
- (b) This effort may be reported as an Individual, Circle Union, Auxiliary or Department effort. Begin Now!

Please keep in mind the time to renew your **MISSIONARY HELPER SUBSCRIPTION**. Appoint some one in your organization to be responsible if you do not have such a person. Women like to work and this is one way of using another dependable person.

If possible please send check or money orders with all orders. This method eliminates a lot of book keeping. Yet, you know we will send you what you order anyway. (We Love You.)

LIFE MEMBER PINS: During the Annual Session there will be a **SALUTE TO ALL LIFE MEMBERS**. You must have on your Pin. If you have not purchased your pin (\$25.00) begin now sending payments on one. When you make your final payment—Your pin will be forwarded to you. Please do not miss this unique Salute to Life Members.

THE COUNTY HAVING THE MOST PERSONS WITH LIFE MEMBER PINS WILL RECEIVE SPECIAL RECOGNITION.

Please Confer and Explain this letter to Your Young Adults and Youth Departments. You are the Key Person to set this in motion. Young People can also win souls to Christ. Support and pray much for all objectives.

—Your Executive Secretary

THREE CHRISTMASES

Christmas, according to dictionary definition, is "an annual church festival in memory of the birth of Christ." Undoubtedly, the word means "Christ Mass." Throughout the civilized world, nations and people are aware of the event which it commemorates, and many at Christmas time rejoice and praise God in a special way for the gift of His precious Son.

Because of the momentous importance of the birth of this Babe in a little town two thousand years ago, a most spectacular performance was arranged in the heavens, the like of which has

never been seen. A choir of angels sang the heaven-born anthem, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Not only was there the singing of the celestial choir, but also an angel—a messenger from the very throne of God—spoke comforting and enlightening words to a group of frightened shepherds as they watched their flocks by night. Even the twinkling, diamondlike stars in the heavens must have been aware of an unusual brilliance in their midst from a star such as they had never seen—the Star of Bethlehem!

The occasion for the appearance of this star was God the Father's emptying heaven of its most precious treasure, giving the world the choicest of gifts—our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

And what gift He was, though wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a lowly manger! The gift of God to all the world—to all who will receive Him by faith—makes every other gift unworthy by comparison. Indeed, the greatness of this gift will be the theme of ransomed souls throughout eternal ages.

To many, that first gift-day—that ancient Christmas—is legendary, part of the unreal past, but to multitudes it is real and precious, because it ushered in eternal life.

In modern times we observe December 25 as the anniversary of that first Christmas. Gifts are the order of the day, with floral decorations, tinsel, music, color, lights and voices of happiness, joy and peace.

But the true Christmas day of our modern times is marked by a deeper, far more sacred feeling, for it is the day when the individual sinner accepts the gift whom God has given. He is indeed the Babe of that first Christmas, but now the crucified, risen, and glorified Saviour.

We may observe the anniversary of Christmas many times, but the one most meaningful to Christians is the day, no matter what the date or season, when we presented ourselves as sinners to Jesus Christ our Lord. As we gave ourselves to Him, He gave Himself to us, and the Holy Spirit came to dwell in our hearts. What an exchange of gifts! What a day—your **spiritual** Christmas day!

Have you accepted the gift of whom the angels sang two thousand years ago? The salvation that is in Him is yours for the taking, without money and without price. The gift you receive when you receive Him can never become broken, worn out, faded, or outdated. Instead, it becomes more precious as time goes on.

Christ offers not the jingle bells of transitory pleasure, but the joy bells of an overflowing heart.

He invites not to an earthly banqueting hall, but bids you feast at His table, filled with heaven's bounty. He would delight your ear, not with the restless music of the world, but with the symphony of heaven. If you take Him, then your heart will sing as did the heavenly choir long ago, "Glory to God in the highest. Peace on earth, good will toward men."

A great day, indeed, was that first Christmas Day. Likewise the spiritual Christmas on which one receives God's gift is a day of spiritual blessings. But perhaps the greatest Christmas of all is still to come. On that great day, all those who know Christ as Saviour—both dead and living—will then rejoice.

As Jesus, God's great gift, came to the world on that first Christmas, so He will come again. . . . As a heavenly choir sang to the shepherds so long ago, so will heavenly trumpeters sound a mighty note of victory, which will be heard in every nook and corner of the earth and into the depths of the sea.

On that great Christmas day to come, our mighty King will present Himself and we will be with Him forever. Then will He be clearly seen, the Prince of the House of David, the Prince of Life (Acts 3:15), and the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). Now we believe, but then we and all the world shall see that He is the fairest of the fair, the one altogether lovely, the Rose of Sharon, the one in whom the Father takes delight. Oh, triumphant day, the rapture!

At that Christmas day in prospect the long-promised gift of incorruptible bodies will be given. Tongues will be loosed to shout His befitting praises. Earthly limitations will be removed and the things which "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard," things which the Father hath prepared before the foundation of the world for them that love Him, will all be plainly seen. Thus in joy unspeakable will eternity be spent among the glories and wonders of close and inseparable communion with King Immanuel. Oh, the glory, the joy, the wonder of this Christmas yet to come!

The ancient Christmas Day meant much to a dying world; the spiritual Christmas Day—the personal coming of Christ to us—means life to every believer; but the Christmas Day in prospect will be the culminating day of eternal joy and wonder.

Copyright, Moody Monthly, Chicago, Illinois. Used by permission.

THE CHRISTIAN USHER'S DESIRE

Deacon Carolina B. Chadwick, President of the Trent River Oakey Grove Usher's Convention delivered his annual address at the St. Phillips Missionary Baptist Church in Pollocksville during the 28th Annual Session. He spoke from the subject, "The Christian Usher's Desire."

Deacon Chadwick's discourse centered around the aims and objectives of a good usher. Several observations were made, about following Christ. A good usher should strive to be more like Him each day; A good usher should help bear his neighbor's burdens, thus, showing concern for human weaknesses; An usher's life is one of service to others, therefore, he should so carry himself, that others may emulate him. Only when he is obedient to God's law, and learns how to deny himself of worldly things, will he be an example of Grace and Truth.

This brief summary does not give full credit to the stately, presentation of the speaker. Brother Chadwick has, for so many years, been a living example of what he believes. The theme of the convention for the week was taken from Roman 15:3 "For even Christ, pleased not, Himself." No doubt this profound message can be applied to all of us who strive to uphold Baptist principles, and keep its covenant.



VALENCIA THOMPSON

During the three day session, a very exciting campaign among the ushers, was held to select the "Usher of the Year." Miss Valencia Thompson of St. Phillips Missionary Baptist Church was named for the award.

Season's Greetings

A MULTITUDE REDUCED TO UNITY

We came, we saw and we united was what happened at the recent 25th Annual Session of the Laymen's League Convention and the 107th Annual Session of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

The messengers from churches in all sections of the state converged upon Raleigh and the First Baptist Church, 101 South Wilmington Street, to do Convention business for the Lord. Many smoke signals had gone up around the state which caused many to anticipate some fine works, or at least some hot issues. The Laymen's League Convention assumed the responsibility of shifting the mass transit vehicle into first gear with President Frank Marshall at the steering wheel. The chartered course of travel was taken from I Corinthians 3:9, "For We Are Laborers Together With God." With the able assistance of Vice Presidents, Laymen's League Convention officials and personnel, the traveling was smooth venturing into the land of theme discussions, business, workshops, welcomes, greetings, sermons and a dynamic address by President Marshall.

We hasten to add that the environment was made conducive for the session through much hard work and preparation made by the pastor, Dr. C. W. Ward and the wonderful members of the First Baptist Church. The church had gone through major renovation including a new organ. The welcome look which radiated from the pastor's countenance, the smiles and broad hospitality extended by members, and the beautiful sanctuary, offered an indescribable air which had a tendency to make all who gathered there, a little more humble. For this we are indebted to Dr. C. W. Ward and his wonderful people. We further extend appreciation to Dr. P. H. Johnson, Dr. W. B. Lewis and other pastors of churches in Raleigh who helped to make our stay a pleasant and profitable one.

The General Baptist State Convention was called to order by its President Dr. C. R. Edwards and proceeded on the course of "Laborers Together With God." By this time, some of the anticipated hot issues had come to the floor in an earlier General Board Meeting. Nevertheless, President Edwards ascended to the driver's seat in his firm but kind manner and moved the brethren and sisters on a history making journey.

Each participant seemed to be at his best presenting devotionals, making reports, delivering sermons and extending greetings.

Souls were hungry for the word of the Lord when President Edwards had them to sit down and receive nourishment through a dynamic annual address. All who heard him can bear witness that God spoke through His man servant. President Edwards completed four years of wonderful leadership and turned the gavel over to the Dr. J. J. Johnson who was elected to be the next President of the General Baptist State Convention. We can truly say that if there were confusion, it was reduced to UNITY.

ROCKY MOUNT WOMAN NAMED TO WHO'S WHO



Mrs. Mary Bulluck Moore of 524 Park Avenue, Rocky Mount has been included in the new listing of Who's Who in Religion in America, according to an announcement issued recently by Marquis Who's Who, Inc. of Chicago.

She was cited in receiving the honor for the work she has done in religion over the past years.

Mrs. Moore has been recording secretary for the Edgecombe County Sunday School Union from 1940 to present, and financial secretary of the Edgecombe County Sunday School Convention from 1955 to present. She has also been supervisor of the Youth Department of the County Sunday School Union for the past five years and has traveled extensively throughout the United States to carry on her work. She has visited 45 states on various occasions, participating in Baptist Training Union Congresses, conventions, and training institutes.

She attended elementary school in Edgecombe County and graduated from Booker T. Washing-

ton High School in Rocky Mount. She also continued her studies at Shaw University in Raleigh. She also studied through correspondence with the University of Chicago.

Mrs. Moore's honor has been acknowledged by County Sunday School Union and the Harts Chapel Baptist Church, where she is an active member.

Mrs. Moore is married to Charlie Moore and they have six children, four boys and two girls.

Dear Pastor:

As we approach the day on which we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, I wish it were possible for me to visit every Church of our Convention, to share with our laymen the good news that Jesus has given to us a sure method by which we can make the world a safe place in which to live.

I would like to tell the laymen that the angelic blessing, "On earth peace, good will toward men," can indeed be made a reality, if we would just try a little harder to spread the Gospel to people who need to hear it.

Let me wish for just a moment, while we think about two major crimes—assault and robbery. Just suppose that in my community, and in your community, we could have a way of knowing who is going to rob somebody or attack somebody during the month of December, and just suppose we could get those people to come to church this coming Sunday morning and accept Jesus's way of solving their problems. It would not have to be our church alone, but any church that is sincerely Christian. Then, to continue to wish, on Monday morning if some of our laymen would take each one of these formerly lost persons to work with them, to help him to learn how to hold a job, just as they would a brother, I feel that we would come very near to having peace right here this very Christmas!

This wish is not as childish as it may at first seem to be. I agree that we cannot look into the future and know whose name is going to be in the paper; but we do have a pretty good description of the kind of person for whom we are looking, so we do know how to start out to find him.

He is most likely to be a man—a young man. He will not already be an active Church member, nor will he be in our lodge or social club. He will not be working at a desirable, well-paying job. He will not be a property-owner, and will not be living in a nice home in a classy neighborhood.

He is a person who has been disappointed with life. Somewhere down the line he was not properly guided. He cannot meet the competition of everyday living, as we can. He doesn't know how to talk about the things which we talk about. He probably doesn't have nice clothes to wear to church. Perhaps he is forlorn and feels that other people owe him a living.

He may be the one whom we ignored yesterday, when we hollered past him to speak to one of our friends. Perhaps he is the one whom we sometimes pass and do not offer a ride, because we do not want to smell him in our air-conditioned car, with the windows closed.

Have we educated and disinfected ourselves to the point at which we cannot reach the people whom the world needs for us to reach most? I sincerely hope not. May each layman in our General Baptist Churches resolve that he cannot keep the Good News to himself any longer, but must share it with others so that they, too, may live a better way of life!

Yours in Christian Service,
Henry D. Cooper, Laymen's Secretary

THE TRAINING PROGRAM OF A CHURCH (BAPTIST TRAINING UNION)

The basic purpose of the church training program is to equip church members with the training necessary for the church to effectively do its job for the Lord. Every officer of the church—deacons, clerk, treasurer, Sunday School superintendent, ushers, pianist—everyone must be trained in certain skills.

THE TASKS FOR THE CHURCH TRAINING PROGRAM ARE:

- I. Teach Systematic Theology, Christian Ethics, Christian History, Church Policy and Organization.
 1. Systematic Theology—An attempt to organize Christian truths into a meaningful system of Christian beliefs.
 2. Christian Ethics—Application of the gospel to all of man's relationship.
 3. Church History.
 4. Church Polity and Organization.
- II. Give orientation to new church members.
- III. Train all church members to worship, witness, learn and minister daily.

- IV. Train leaders for the church and denomination.
 1. Discover, Recruit and train Potential Leaders.
 2. Provide for specialized Leader Training.
- V. Provide organization and leadership for special projects of the church.
 1. Study courses for special needs.
 2. Training members to participate in church business meetings.
- VI. Provide and interpret information regarding the work of the church and the denomination (The General Baptist State Convention's Program—the Unified Program).

Every Church has potential leaders, many who are not now actively serving the Lord could make a great contribution to his work if they had the opportunity to train. Therefore, it is the training programs' job to discover, recruit, and give basic training to these potential workers. The idea is to enlist possible workers and give general training that would be essential for work in any area of the church.

One of the greatest weaknesses of most churches is the lack of trained leaders. Training Union can provide for specialized training (both pre-service and in-service) for the Sunday School and other organizations, committees and officers.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 11	One Day Session, Woman's Convention, Memorial Auditorium, Raleigh
February	One day Session, Usher's Convention
April	One day Session, Laymen's League Convention
May 6	Moderators' Clinic, Second Calvary Baptist, Charlotte
May 7	One day Session, General Baptist State Convention, Second Calvary Baptist, Charlotte
June 16-20	National Baptist Sunday School and B.T.U. Congress, U.S.A., Inc., Birmingham, Ala.
June 16-20	National Baptist Sunday School Congress of America
July	State Usher's Convention
July 28-31	Woman's Convention, Shiloh Baptist, Greensboro
August 5-7	State Sunday School And B.T.U. Congress, Shiloh Baptist, Winston-Salem
August 26-29	Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, Toledo, Ohio
September 8-14	National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., St. Louis, Missouri
September 8-14	National Baptist Convention of America, Philadelphia, Penn.
September 8-14	Progressive National Baptist Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey
October 27-30	General Baptist State Convention and Laymen's League Convention, Shiloh Baptist, Shelby, North Carolina